

historic structure report  
HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DATA

KINGS MOUNTAIN  
HOWSER HOUSE

NATIONAL MILITARY PARK / SOUTH CAROLINA

F277  
.K5B42









HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT  
HOWSER HOUSE  
HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL DATA  
KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK  
SOUTH CAROLINA

by

Edwin C. Bearss  
Michael Adlerstein

DENVER SERVICE CENTER  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION TEAM  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
DENVER, COLORADO

JUNE 1974

F 277

.K5B42

8871

CUST. LOT NO. 12-18-P		ITEM NO. 0102		DEPARTMENT		CATEGORY MONOGRAPH		BINDING CLASS PAPERBACK		EXPECTED		JOB. NO.	
ACCOUNT I.D. 211070		TITLE I.D.		COLLECTION		LEVEL X		HOWSER HOUSE KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK, S.C.		SET OF		DATE SENT	
NAME CLEMSON UNIVERSITY R.M. COOPER LIBRARY CLEMSON, S.C. 29634		ISSN / ISBN		BIND. FREQ.		PUB. FREQ.		HEIGHT 0-0/8		COVER COLOR C		PRINT DATE 1295	
<input type="checkbox"/> SAVE TITLE (NEW) <input type="checkbox"/> DO NOT SAVE TITLE		<input type="checkbox"/> PERMANENT CHANGE <input type="checkbox"/> SAMPLE/RUB SENT		7		F277 .K5B42		WIDTH 0-0/8		PRINT COLOR W		ENTRY DATE SMAN1295	
TITLE PAGE TABLE CONT. INDEX		FRONT COVER BACK COVER ADS		INSTRUCTIONS WHENEVER POSSIBLE -- ***MOUNT FRONT COVER***		TRIM TOP 0 1 4 BOTTOM 0 1 4 FRONT 0 1 4		SPINE 0		UPDATE			
<div style="position: relative; height: 100px;"> <span style="position: absolute; top: 0; left: 0; font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">N-fip</span> <div style="position: absolute; bottom: 0; right: 0; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">P8871 . 259</div> </div>													
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>             BAR CODE DATA 211070 028326 ABLE         </div> <div style="color: red;">             BINDERY COPY 2         </div> </div>													

Friendly residents of the area shared their recollections and photographs of the Henry Howser House. Mesdames Julia Norman, Mrs. James Jackson, and Hood Watterson, and Messrs. W. A. Hambright, Bobby Moss, G. W. Blanton, and William Howell spent several hours discussing the house and local history. Mr. Joe Wilson

sfy  
tive  
n the  
and  
rces,  
oerti-  
e  
ave  
h  
ects  
muse-  
shing  
ral  
lived  
ction,  
on of  
e of  
a-  
ective  
n the  
de to  
raphs,  
are  
r each  
e  
on of  
Ben  
r 20  
tain  
Jim  
on  
and  
dge.

F 277

.K5B42

168871

## PREFACE

Part One of this report has been prepared to satisfy the research needs as enumerated in the planning directive calling for a historical data section for the historic structure report on the Howser House, providing data on the history of the structure, its occupation, furnishings, and physical changes through the years. All available sources, both manuscript and published, have been reviewed and pertinent material extracted. Individuals familiar with the Henry Howser House, Howser family, and local history have been interviewed. The data gathered has been organized into a comprehensive report designed to provide architects with a structural history of the building and grounds, museum curators with data useful in preparation of a furnishing plan, and the interpreter with information on the cultural and social history of the Howser family and others who lived in the old "stone house."

Part Two of this report, the architectural data section, provides descriptive information on the present condition of the fabric of the Howser House and grounds, the sequence of changes made to the building, and alternative recommendations for restoration as called for in the planning directive for the historic structure report. The data gathered in the field concerning the existing conditions and changes made to the structure is presented in measured drawings, photographs, and a written statement. The restoration alternatives are thoroughly described in the text and a cost estimate for each alternative and preliminary restoration drawings for the recommended restoration work are included.

A number of persons have assisted in the preparation of this report. Particular thanks are due Superintendent Ben Moomaw, a dedicated employee of more than 40 years (over 20 of which have been spent as superintendent of Kings Mountain NMP) who went out of his way to answer all questions and extend a helping hand. Members of his staff--Historian Jim Anderson; Ranger Doug Thompson; Administrative Officer Don Crawford; and Maintenance Men Earl Huskey, Jerry Bowen, and John Stewart--gave unstintingly of their time and knowledge. Friendly residents of the area shared their recollections and photographs of the Henry Howser House. Mesdames Julia Norman, Mrs. James Jackson, and Hood Watterson, and Messrs. W. A. Hambright, Bobby Moss, G. W. Blanton, and William Howell spent several hours discussing the house and local history. Mr. Joe Wilson

made available an early photograph of the structure, while William Howell, grandson of Lawson Howell, provided us with our earliest photograph of the house.

Personnel in the offices of the county clerk and probate judge in the York and Cherokee County Courthouses were friendly and helpful.

Historical Architect Hugh Miller, Exhibits Specialist Jim Askins, and Archeologists Jack Walker and Richard Carrillo reconnoitered the house and shared their knowledge of the fabric and their enthusiasm for preservation of the Howser House. In the preparation of the restoration drawings, the expertise of Historical Architect Frank Gerner and Architectural Assistants Sally Sweetser and Sherry Stevens is highly appreciated.

Our friends and colleagues Superintendent Moomaw and Historian Anderson of Kings Mountain NMP, Dr. Harry Pfanz and Barry Mackintosh of Park Historic Preservation, and Historical Architect Penelope H. Batcheler reviewed the manuscript and drawings, making valuable suggestions. Harriet Jorn and Dorothy Dean shared the unenviable task of converting the scrawl into a typed report.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE . . . . .	iii
-------------------	-----

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND DRAWINGS . . . . .	xi
--	----

I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA: HENRY HOWSER HOUSE . . . . .	1
A. Name and Number of Structure . . . . .	1
B. Proposed Use of Structure . . . . .	1
C. Justification for Such Use . . . . .	1
D. Provision for Operating Structure . . . . .	1
E. Cooperative Agreement, if any, Executed or Proposed for Operating the Structure . . . . .	1
F. Description of Proposed Construction Activity . . . . .	1
G. Statement of Significance . . . . .	2

### Historical Data

II. OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY AND CHAIN OF TITLE . . . . .	3
A. Henry Howser I Comes to Kings Creek . . . . .	3
B. Henry Howser I Increases His Land Holdings . . . . .	5
C. Henry Howser II and the Home Place . . . . .	7
1. The Executors Sell Henry Howser I's Real Estate . . . . .	7
2. Henry Howser II's Real Estate Transactions . . . . .	9
D. Faithy Howser as Owner . . . . .	12
1. Faithy Howser Acquires the Home Place . . . . .	12
2. Faithy Howser's Real Estate Transactions . . . . .	14
E. The Howells and the Home Place . . . . .	16
1. The Liquidation of the Faithy Howser Estate . . . . .	16
2. Lawson Howell Adds to His Farm . . . . .	18
F. The Howser House Tract Becomes one of Jenkins's Farms . . . . .	19
1. Jenkins Purchases 212 Acres of the Jane Goforth Farm . . . . .	19
2. Jenkins Acquires the 279-Acre Howell Farm . . . . .	21
3. J. F. Jenkins Loses His Farms . . . . .	22
G. The United States Acquires the Howser House . . . . .	24

III. THE HOWSER HOUSE AND ITS OCCUPANTS, 1803-1938 . . . . .	25
A. Henry Howser I and the House . . . . .	25
1. Henry Howser I Comes to America . . . . .	25
2. Henry Howser I in Lincoln County, North Carolina . . . . .	25
3. The Howsers Move to South Carolina . . . . .	27
4. The South Carolina Years . . . . .	28
a. The First 12 Years . . . . .	28
b. Henry and Jane Howser Build a Mansion . . . . .	28
c. The Twilight Years . . . . .	29
d. Henry Howser Passes On . . . . .	30
B. Henry Howser II and the Property . . . . .	33
1. Henry Howser II--Planter and Miller . . . . .	33
2. The Division of the Estate . . . . .	34



C.	Faithy Howser--40 Years a Farmer . . . . .	36
1.	Faithy Howser Takes Charge . . . . .	36
2.	The Family and Farm in 1850 . . . . .	37
3.	The Family and Farm in 1860 . . . . .	38
4.	The Farm in 1870 . . . . .	39
5.	The Farm in 1880 . . . . .	40
6.	Recollections of Faithy Howser . . . . .	41
D.	The Years of Tenants and Absentee Ownership, 1884-1938 . . . . .	42
1.	The Howell Years . . . . .	42
2.	The Jenkins Years . . . . .	43
3.	The Bank Years . . . . .	43
IV.	THE HOWSER HOUSE AND THE NPS . . . . .	45
A.	Historian Young Finds the House "Unique" . . . . .	45
B.	Regional Director Russell Acts . . . . .	48
1.	Superintendent Camp's December 1937 Inspection . .	48
2.	The Regional Office's Response . . . . .	50
C.	The Howser House is Linked with a "Colonial Village" .	51
1.	Camp Makes a Proposal . . . . .	51
2.	Washington Vetoes the Hawthorn House Proposal . .	52
3.	Flickinger Argues for a Modification of Policy . .	52
4.	Camp Suggests that the Howser House be Rebuilt . .	53
5.	Flickinger Couples Preservation and Interpretation of the Howser and Hawthorn Houses . . . . .	54
6.	The Washington Office Squelches the "Colonial Village" . . . . .	55
D.	NPS Professionals Determine to Preserve the Howser House . . . . .	57
1.	Regional Architect Bullock's Inspection and Evaluation of the Howser House . . . . .	57
2.	Regional Director Tillotson Orders the House Protected . . . . .	58
3.	The February 1939 Planning Conference . . . . .	59
a.	Research Technician Lattimore's Visit and Report . . . . .	59
b.	The Multi-Discipline Conference makes a Recommendation . . . . .	59
E.	The NPS Decides to Preserve the Structure . . . . .	61
1.	Associate Director Tolson Acts . . . . .	61
2.	Belated Measures are Taken to Protect the House .	62
3.	Superintendent Camp Seeks to Use the Howser House as Park Quarters . . . . .	64
4.	Camp Requests Authority to Raze the Barns . . . .	65
5.	The Howser House is Entered on HABS . . . . .	66
F.	Policy Fluctuates as the Structure Deteriorates . . .	67
1.	A Decade of Continued Deterioration . . . . .	67
2.	The Service Determines to Let the House Meld . . .	68
3.	The Service Takes a New Look at the House . . . .	69
4.	Director Thompson Reverses the Decision to Allow the Structure to Meld . . . . .	71



V.	RECOLLECTIONS OF THE HOWSER HOUSE AND GROUNDS IN THE 1920s . . . . .	75
A.	Mrs. Julia Norman's Recollections . . . . .	75
1.	The Stone House . . . . .	75
a.	First Floor . . . . .	75
b.	Second Floor . . . . .	76
2.	Frame Addition . . . . .	76
3.	Grounds . . . . .	76
4.	Outbuilding and Lots . . . . .	77
5.	Crops in the 1920s . . . . .	77
B.	Mrs. Watterson's Recollections . . . . .	77
1.	The Stone House . . . . .	77
a.	First Floor . . . . .	77
b.	Second Floor . . . . .	78
2.	Frame Addition . . . . .	78
3.	Basement . . . . .	79
4.	Grounds . . . . .	79
5.	Outbuildings . . . . .	79
VI.	DOCUMENTARY DESCRIPTIONS OF THE STRUCTURES, 1803-1934 . . . . .	81
APPENDICES		
A.	Last Will and Testament of Henry Howser I . . . . .	87
B.	Appraisement Bill of Estate of Henry Howser I . . . . .	91
C.	Sale Bill of Estate of Henry Howser I . . . . .	97
D.	Appraisement Bill of Estate of Henry Howser II . . . . .	105
E.	Sale Bill of Estate of Henry Howser II . . . . .	109
F.	Last Will and Testament of John Howser . . . . .	115
G.	Appraisement of Goods and Chattels of John Howser . . . . .	117
H.	Sale Bill of John Howser . . . . .	121
I.	Last Will and Testament of Nancy Howser . . . . .	123
J.	Appraisement Bill of Estate of John Howser . . . . .	125
K.	Sale Bill for Estate of John Howser . . . . .	129
L.	Last Will and Testament of Christina Howser . . . . .	135
M.	Last Will and Testament of David Howser . . . . .	137
N.	Last Will and Testament of Lawson Howell . . . . .	139
O.	Population Schedules, 1790-1880 . . . . .	141
P.	Interviews with Mrs. James P. Jackson and Mr. William W. Howell . . . . .	153
BIBLIOGRAPHY . . . . .		157
ILLUSTRATIONS . . . . .		167
<u>Architectural Data</u> . . . . .		177
INTRODUCTION . . . . .		180
I.	EXISTING CONDITIONS: GENERAL DESCRIPTION . . . . .	186

II.	EXISTING CONDITIONS: EXTERIOR OF STONE HOUSE . . . . .	195
A.	Foundations . . . . .	195
B.	Basement Steps, South Wall . . . . .	195
C.	Front Entrance Steps, <sup>6</sup> East Wall . . . . .	198
D.	Back Entrance, West Wall . . . . .	198
E.	Exterior Walls . . . . .	198
F.	Exterior Cornice . . . . .	200
G.	Roof . . . . .	200
H.	Exterior Doors . . . . .	200
I.	Windows . . . . .	201
J.	Shutters . . . . .	201
K.	Chimneys . . . . .	201
III.	EXISTING CONDITIONS: INTERIOR OF STONE HOUSE . . . . .	207
A.	Cellar and Crawl Space . . . . .	207
B.	First Floor . . . . .	207
1.	Room 101 . . . . .	208
2.	Room 102 . . . . .	209
3.	Room 103 . . . . .	215
C.	Second Floor . . . . .	215
D.	Attic . . . . .	221
E.	Structural Systems . . . . .	221
IV.	EXISTING CONDITIONS: EXTERIOR OF WOOD ADDITION . . . . .	223
A.	Foundations . . . . .	223
B.	Exterior Walls . . . . .	227
C.	Porch . . . . .	227
D.	Windows . . . . .	227
E.	Doors . . . . .	227
F.	Roof . . . . .	230
V.	GENERAL CONDITIONS: INTERIOR OF WOOD ADDITION . . . . .	230
A.	Crawl Space . . . . .	230
B.	First Floor . . . . .	230
C.	Structural System . . . . .	230
VII.	RESTORATION ALTERNATIVES . . . . .	231
A.	General . . . . .	231
B.	Stabilization of Interior and Exterior of the Structure and Grounds . . . . .	231
C.	Alternative "A": Stabilization of Interior and Exterior of Structure, and Complete Restoration of Exterior Facades of Structure and Grounds . . . . .	232
D.	Alternative "B": Complete restoration of Exterior and Grounds and Complete Restoration of Entire Interior . . . . .	233

E. Alternative "C": Complete Restoration of Exterior and Grounds, and Adaptive Restoration of Entire Interior as a Residence for Park Personnel . . . . .	233
F. Alternative "D": Complete Restoration of Exterior and First Floor of Interior, and Adaptive Restoration of Cellar and Second Floor as a Residence for Park Personnel . . . . .	234
G. Restoration Recommendation . . . . .	235
PACKAGE ESTIMATING DETAIL (PRELIMINARY) . . . . .	237
ADDENDUM: DECORATIVE FINISHES . . . . .	241
DRAWINGS . . . . .	249



## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND DRAWINGS

### Illustration

#### Historical Data

1. Plat of the Widow Howser's dower, as surveyed  
by A. Hardin, June 6, 1843 . . . . . 168
2. Drawing of the Howser House complex, ca. 1929 . . . . . 170
3. East elevations of stone house and frame  
kitchen-dining room as recalled by William W. Howell . . 172
4. Floor plan of stone house and frame kitchen-  
dining room as recalled by William W. Howell . . . . . 174

#### Architectural Data

1. Earliest known exterior photograph of Howser House,  
ca. 1895 . . . . . 178
2. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1900 . . . . . 182
3. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1900 . . . . . 184
4. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1900 . . . . . 184
5. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1910 . . . . . 188
6. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1930 . . . . . 188
7. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1935 . . . . . 190
8. Window frame, ca. 1935 . . . . . 190
9. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1940 . . . . . 192
10. Exterior of the Howser House, ca. 1973 . . . . . 192
11. South wall . . . . . 196
12. Partial west wall . . . . . 196
13. Northwest corner of house . . . . . 202

14. Front door inscription . . . . .	202
15. Front steps . . . . .	204
16. South wall of wood addition . . . . .	204
17. Room 101, ca. 1900 . . . . .	210
18. Room 101, ca. 1900 . . . . .	210
19. Room 101, present condition . . . . .	212
20. Room 101, present condition of partition wall . . . . .	212
21. Second floor, east wall . . . . .	216
22. Second floor, south wall . . . . .	216
23. Second floor, west wall . . . . .	218
24. Second floor, west wall . . . . .	218
25. Detail of rafter-plate-attic joist connection . . . . .	224
26. Detail of joist-summer beam connection . . . . .	224
27. Wood addition, west wall . . . . .	228
28. Barn foundation across road from the Howser House . . . . .	228
Drawings of Existing Conditions of Henry Howser House, (set of 3 sheets) . . . . .	249
Sheet 1. Site Plan and Elevations . . . . .	250
Sheet 2. Floor Plans . . . . .	252
Sheet 3. Sections and Framing Plans . . . . .	254
Drawings of Adaptive Restoration of Henry Howser House, (set of 10 sheets) . . . . .	257
Sheet 1. Site Plan and Elevations . . . . .	258
Sheet 2. Floor Plans (Alternative "D") . . . . .	260
Sheet 3. Sections and Framing Plans . . . . .	262

Sheet 4.	Window Architrave and Cornice Details . . . . .	264
Sheet 5.	Window Details and Summer Beam Connection . . . . .	266
Sheet 6.	Door and Fireplace Elevations and Section . . . . .	268
Sheet 7.	Stair, Fireplace, and Moulding Detail . . . . .	270
Sheet 8.	Stairs--Plan and Elevations . . . . .	272
Sheet 9.	Miscellaneous Details . . . . .	274
Sheet 10.	Structural Details . . . . .	276





I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA: HENRY HOWSER HOUSE

A. Name and Number of Structure

Henry Howser House, Structure No. 1, Kings Mountain National Military Park, Cherokee County, South Carolina. This structure is classified as 3d Order of Significance.

B. Proposed Use of Structure

The exterior of the stone structure will be restored to its appearance ca. 1803. The terraces, retaining walls, well, and foundations of the outbuildings will be restored and partially cleared of shrubbery to allow the structure to be viewed from the road; various alternatives are presented in this report for the treatment of the interior of the house. The final choice will depend on the amount of funds appropriated for this project. The proposal recommended in this report, if money allows, is the complete restoration and refurnishing of the first floor to its ca. 1825 appearance and the adaptive restoration of the second floor as quarters for park personnel.

C. Justification for Such Use

The Henry Howser House, while not associated with the battle of Kings Mountain, is a significant cultural and architectural resource. Its architectural significance has been recognized by the National Park Service and the Historic American Buildings Survey since the 1930s. For this reason, the structure must be preserved and interpreted.

D. Provision for Operating Structure

The exterior, interior, and grounds of the Howser House will be employed to interpret social, economic, and cultural life of the region during the first 60 years of the nineteenth century.

E. Cooperative Agreement, if any, Executed or Proposed for Operating the Structure

No cooperative agreement will be required to operate the structure.

F. Description of Proposed Construction Activity

Information on this subject is found in the architectural data section of this report.

#### G. Statement of Significance

The Henry Howser House is a significant architectural resource, illustrative of the social, cultural, and economic history of the region. Its architectural significance was recognized by the National Park Service and the Historic American Buildings Survey more than 30 years ago.

Students of regional vernacular architecture have informed me that there are only several stone houses of this type in the Piedmont Region of North and South Carolina. On field trips to the area, I found tremendous interest among preservationists in restoration of the Howser House.

HISTORICAL DATA

by

Edwin C. Bearss



## II. OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY AND CHAIN OF TITLE

### A. Henry Howser I Comes to Kings Creek

Henry Howser I was the fourth white owner of the land on Kings Creek where he built his handsome two-story stone house in 1803. When he purchased the land in 1788, 8 years after the battle of Kings Mountain, he was living on Howard Creek, Lincoln County, North Carolina.

Peter Julian of Guilford County, North Carolina, on May 5, 1785, sold to John Hofstiller of Lincoln County, North Carolina, for £100 in "proclamation money," 125 acres in the District of Camden "on the north side of Broad river on the main fork of Kings Creek." The boundary of the subject tract began at a red oak in the southeast and upper corner of a tract granted to Samuel Finley by King George II, then ran North 20° West 173 poles to a stake; then South 70° West 117 poles to a stake; then South 20° East 173 poles to a stake; and then North 70° East 117 poles to the beginning. This 125 acres was part of a tract granted Samuel Finley on September 4, 1754, conveyed by Finley to John Moore, and by Moore to Julian.<sup>1</sup>

On January 10, 1788, John and Eve Hofstiller of York County sold to Henry Howser of Lincoln County, North Carolina, for £125 North Carolina money, a 125-acre tract in York County, South Carolina. The subject tract was north of Broad River on the "main fork of Kings Creek." In running the boundary, the surveyor began on the "southeast and upper corner of a tract granted to Samuel Finley and running North 20° West 173 poles to a stake; then South 70° West 117 poles to a stake; then South 20° East 173 poles to a stake; and then North 70° East 117 poles to the beginning."<sup>2</sup>

---

1. York County Deed Book A, pp. 141-42, York County Court-house, York, S.C.; Minute Book, York County Court, 1786-1792, p. 63.

2. York County Deed Book B, pp. 50-51, York County Court-house, York, S.C. York County had been established by the South Carolina General Assembly on Mar. 24, 1785.

Henry Howser had moved to and was living on Kings Creek on July 7, 1789, when he enlarged his holdings in South Carolina by the purchase for £45 of 120 acres from William Julian of Burk County, North Carolina. The tract conveyed was on Kings Creek and was bounded on the northwest by John Moore's land, on the southwest by Frederick Hambright's and John Alexander's property, on the southeast by "vacant lands," and on the northeast by Isaac Collins's land.<sup>3</sup>

Three years before beginning construction of his handsome two-story stone house, Howser purchased from Robert Black for \$132.50 a 53-acre tract on Kings Creek. The boundary of the land conveyed began at a "Horn Beam" on the east side of Kings Creek and ran South 36° East 26 chains and 25 links to a black oak; then North 48° East 28 chains and 50 links to a stake; then North 70° West 33 chains to John Cain's corner on the west bank of Kings Creek; and then with meanders of the stream to the beginning. Included were the house in which Black lived, as well as all "ways, woods, waters, orchard, etc."<sup>4</sup>

Five months later, on January 23, 1801, Henry Howser sold the Black tract to Frederick Hambright for \$160.<sup>5</sup>

On August 10, 1801, Henry Howser enlarged his York District holdings by purchasing from Robert Black of Burk County, North Carolina, for \$100, an 18-acre tract on both sides of Kings Creek. This land adjoined his property as well as that of M. Black. In running the boundary, the surveyor began at a post oak on the original Black survey; then South 70° West 8 chains and 50 links to a stake on Howser's line; then with Howser's line North 20° West 21 chains to a stake on the subject line; then North 70° East 8 chains and 50 links to a hickory near the branch of Kings Creek; and then South 20° East 21 chains to the beginning.<sup>6</sup>

---

3. Ibid., pp. 239-40.

4. York County Deed Book E, pp. 505-06, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

5. Ibid., pp. 503-04.

6. York County Deed Book F, pp. 18-19, York County Courthouse, York, S.C. In 1800 the South Carolina General Assembly

## B. Henry Howser I Increases His Land Holdings

In the years after construction of the rock house, Henry Howser became increasingly interested in land. Ownership of land was closely identified at this period with a man's importance in the community. Since his sons were coming of age, he also wanted to help get them started as independent farmers.

Governor Charles Pinckney of South Carolina, in accordance with "An Act for establishing the mode of granting the lands now vacant in this state and for allowing a commutation to be received from some lands that have been granted," enacted on February 19, 1791, granted 460 acres to Henry Howser on May 5, 1808. The subject acreage had been surveyed for Howser on July 16, 1807, and was on Millstone Branch of Kings Creek in York District. On the northwest and southwest the 460 acres were bounded by Howser's land, on the southeast by Nicholas Whisonant's property, and on all other sides by vacant lands.<sup>7</sup>

On July 4, 1808, Governor Pinckney granted to Henry Howser a 1,000-acre tract on a branch of Clarks Fork. The boundary of this tract, as surveyed, began at a spanish oak and ran South 42° West 118 chains to a pine; then South 38° East 109 chains to a stake on Caldwell's line; then North 15° East 23 chains to a white oak; then North 43° East 35 chains to a pine on Buck Hill; then North 19° East 50 chains to a post oak; then North 40° West 35 chains to a stake; then North 20° East 15 chains to a chestnut; and then North 21° West 41 chains to the beginning.<sup>8</sup>

Seventeen months later, on December 7, 1809, John Black of York District sold to Henry Howser a 333-acre tract near "battleground branch" for \$30. The boundary of this tract,

---

enacted legislation substituting the term "district" for "county." The constitution of 1868 substituted "county" for "district."

7. South Carolina Grant Book, Vol. 54, 1807-1809, South Carolina Dept. of Archives and History.

8. York County Deed Book L, p. 511, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.



part of which had been granted to Black by Governor Charles Pinckney the previous year, began near the branch and ran North 40° West 15 chains to a black oak (Caldwell's corner); then North 150° East 23 chains to a stake; then North 380° West 109 chains to a stake; then South 420° West 28.25 chains to a double black oak; and then South 380° East 133 chains to the beginning.<sup>9</sup>

Two months before, Henry Howser had sold to his eldest son, John, 81 acres off the 120-acre tract he had purchased from William Julian on both sides of Kings Creek. The boundary began at (word missing) and ran North 200° West 34 chains to a black oak; then South 350° West 45 chains to a post oak; then South 550° East 32.50 chains to a hickory; and then to the beginning.<sup>10</sup>

On January 7, 1814, James McElwee of York District and a neighbor sold to Henry Howser for \$500 a 156-acre tract on both sides of Kings Creek. The boundary of this land, originally granted to John Hood, began at a post oak; then North 250° West 50 chains to a chestnut; then South 650° West 32 chains to a red oak; then South 100° East 35 chains to a pine; and then South 870° East 45 chains to the beginning.<sup>11</sup>

Henry Howser I, on July 2, 1819, conveyed to his son, Henry, Jr., an 81-acre tract, more or less, on both sides of Kings Creek. The boundary of the tract conveyed began at a post oak (the John Howser corner) and ran South 350° West 5 chains and 3 pins to a chestnut; then South 550° East 35 chains to a white oak; then North 250° East 5 chains and 3 pins to a hickory (John Howser's corner); and then with this line to the beginning.<sup>12</sup>

---

9. York County Deed Book G, p. 210, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

10. Ibid., p. 211.

11. Ibid., p. 539.

12. York County Deed Book H, pp. 547-48, York County Courthouse, York, C.S.



Henry Howser I, on January 3, 1820, sold to Abner Stewart for \$100 a 120-acre tract on the west side of Kings Creek, adjoining the lands of John Randal, Thomas Connolly, and John Stewart. The surveyor, in running the lines of the tract, began at a poplar (John Whisonant's corner); then South 46° East 48 poles to a chestnut; then South 34° West 25 poles to a chestnut; then South 55° East 129 poles to a hickory; then South 78° West 30 poles to a black gum on the bank of Kings Creek; then with said creek to a stake on John Stewart's line; then South 68° West 126 poles with Stewart's line to a hickory; then North 15° West 36 poles to where Stewart's line intersected Randal's; then North 52° East 78 poles to a red oak (Randal's corner); then North 55° West 33 poles to a post oak; then North 25° South 20 poles to a hickory; then North 26° West 60 poles to a pine; and then North 14° East 61 poles to the beginning.<sup>13</sup>

At the time of his death in March 1822, Henry Howser I owned several thousand acres of land in York District and a tract on Cain Creek in Rutherford County, North Carolina. Included in his York District holdings were the Home Place, purchased of John and Eve Hofstiller; the 18 acres bought from Robert Black in 1801; a 5-4/10-acre tract purchased from Nicholas Whisonant, Sr., but not recorded; the residue of the William Julian tract; two surveys he had had made adjoining the Home Place, one of 139 acres and the other of 460 acres; and the 1,000-acre survey on a branch of Clarks Fork.<sup>14</sup>

### C. Henry Howser II and the Home Place

#### 1. The Executors Sell Henry Howser I's Real Estate

The executors of Henry Howser's estate (Henry Howser II and John Whisonant) succeeded in getting an order from the York District Probate Court postponing the sale of the Home Place, the adjoining Whisonant and Black tracts, and the 139-

---

13. York County Deed Book K, p. 196, York County Court-house, York, S.C.

14. Will of Henry Howser I, Case 23, File 960, York County Probate Court, York, S.C. See Appendix A for a copy of Henry Howser's will.

and 460-acre surveys until January 1832, ten years after his death. Until that time, the widow continued to live in the stone mansion.<sup>15</sup>

On January 11, 1832, Henry Howser II and John Whisonant, as executors of the "last will and testament" of Henry Howser I, exposed for sale at vendure agreeable to the subject will "five small tracts . . . in conjunction so as to compose one tract including the plantation and mansion House whereon Henry Howser, the testor formerly lived." Jane Howser bid \$3,101 for the subject 875-acre tract, whereupon the executors sold to her "all that tract formerly in five smaller tracts."<sup>16</sup>

Immediately thereafter, Jane Howser sold to Henry Howser II for \$3,100, "a tract that I bid off at public auction as the landed estate of Henry Howser deceased on that part of the estate on Kings Creek, including the plantation and all improvements."

The boundary of the tract was to begin on a post oak (Aaron Whisonant's corner); then South 70° West 30 chains to a black oak (another of Aaron Whisonant's corners); then South 20° East 6 chains to a white oak; then South 70° West 1 chain to a hickory; then South 5° East 9.25 chains to a white oak; then South 59° East 6 chains to a poplar; then South 21° East 22.50 chains to an old corner on a stake; then West 7.32 chains to a pine; then South 52° East 46 chains to a maple; then South 68° East 16 chains to a spanish oak; then South 77° East 20.50 chains to a hickory; then South 28° West 25 chains to a black oak; then South 49° East 12 chains to a white oak; then South 9° East 11 chains to a hickory; then North 66° East 35 chains to a post oak; then North 23° East 24.25 chains to a post oak; then North 27° West 10 chains to a hickory; then North 22° West 26.50 chains to a spanish oak; then North 18° West 47 chains to a pine; then North 23° West 7.50 chains to a black oak; then North 67° West 10.75 chains to a pine; then South 30° West 16.50 chains to a hickory; then North 70° West 35 chains to a stake; then South 50° West 16 chains to a black oak; then North 20° West 19 chains to a hickory; then South 50° West 2.75 chains to a rock; and then North 50° West 10.50 chains to the beginning.<sup>17</sup>

---

15. Ibid.

16. York County Deed Book L, pp. 486-87, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

17. Ibid., p. 485.

Eleven days earlier, on January 1, 1832, Henry Howser and John Whisonant, as executors of the Henry Howser I estate, had sold to Mary E., Nancy M., and Elizabeth Clendinen for \$100 the 1,000-acre tract on Clarks Fork.<sup>18</sup>

## 2. Henry Howser II's Real Estate Transactions

Henry Howser II, on September 24, 1823, 18 months after the death of his father, sold his 81-acre tract, on both sides of Kings Creek, to Thomas Carroll for \$400.<sup>19</sup>

Frederick Hambright, on May 27, 1826, sold to Henry Howser II for \$24 a 3-acre tract. The boundary was to begin at a post oak (Howser's corner); then South 50° East 48 poles to a stone on Howser's line; then North 50° West 20 poles to a stake; and then North 27° West 48 poles to the beginning.<sup>20</sup>

David Hambright, in 1829, sold a 70-acre tract on Kings Creek to Henry Howser for \$100. The boundary of the land conveyed was to begin at a white oak on the east side of Kings Creek; then South 55° East 17 chains to a spanish oak; then North 35° East 8.50 chains to a chestnut; then North 34° West 5.25 chains to a red oak; then North 24° East 12 chains to a post oak; then East 10.75 chains to a stake; then North 24° East 23 chains to a stake on the North Carolina state line; then with the state line West 5.50 chains to James Hambright's corner; then with his line South 4.50 chains to a chestnut (James Hambright's corner); then with another of his lines North 53° West 9 chains to a stake on the state line; then with the state line west 4 chains to a black oak (James Hambright's corner); then with another of Hambright's lines South 37° West 12 chains to a post oak (Hambright's corner); then with another of his lines North 45° West 4.50 chains to a white oak; and then with one of Mary Hambright's lines South 20° West 25 chains to the beginning.<sup>21</sup>

---

18. Ibid., p. 511.

19. York County Deed Book K, pp. 225-26, York County Court-house, York, S.C.

20. Ibid., p. 428.

21. York County Deed Book L, p. 321, York County Court-house, York, S.C.

On March 3, 1830, Mary Hambright sold to Henry Howser for \$230 a 50.25-acre tract on Kings Creek, adjoining lands belonging to James Hambright and Henry Howser. The boundary of the property conveyed began at a white oak on the bank of a branch about one rod from its mouth on James Hambright's line; then at \_\_\_\_\_ at 37 West \_\_\_\_\_ chains to a white oak; then South 17° West 9 chains to a black oak; then South 38° West 3.35 chains to a \_\_\_\_\_; then South 48° East 1.50 chains to a stake; then South 38° East 3.50 chains to a post oak; then South 36° \_\_\_\_\_ 7.50 chains to a hickory; then North 76° East 1.50 chains to east bank of Kings Creek; then down the creek to a white oak (a corner of the Buck Hill tract); then North 20° East 6.75 chains to a hickory; then North 81° West 3.50 chains to a hickory; then North 30° West 4.75 chains to a white oak; then North 6° East 11.50 chains to a sweet gum; then North 39° East 5.75 chains to a stake on James Hambright's line; then with James Hambright's line to the beginning. Included in the tract was a "mill seat and a place for a mill."<sup>22</sup>

On May 19, 1831, Elizabeth Hambright sold to Henry Howser for \$20 a 10-acre tract on Kings Creek. In marking the line, the surveyor began at a white oak, near the creek, and ran the boundary South 55° East 40 poles to a stake on Henry Howser's line; then South 20° West 40 poles to a stake; then North 55° West 40 poles to a stake on Mary Hambright's land; and then North 20° East 40 poles with Mary Hambright's line to the beginning.<sup>23</sup>

Mary Hambright, as heir to the estate of Frederick and Mary Hambright, in the early 1830s sold to Henry Howser for \$336 a 95-acre tract on Kings Creek. The boundary of this tract began at a white oak on the east bank of Kings Creek, near the mouth of David Hambright's spring branch; then with the meanders of the spring branch up to the mill ford; then South 76° West 1.50 chains to a hickory; then North 30° West 7.50 chains to a post oak; then North 36° West 3.50 chains to a stake; then North 4° West 1.50 chains to a persimmon; then North 38° East 3.25 chains to a black oak; then North 17° East 9 chains to a white oak; then North 37° East 4 chains to a white oak sprout, near mouth of branch; then South 45° East 5 chains with James Hambright's

---

22. Ibid., p. 322. This tract, with an adjoining 50 acres, soon became known as Howser's Upper Mill Tract.

23. Ibid., p. 465.

line to a stake on said line; then South 35° West 5.75 chains to a sweet gum; then South 6° West 11.50 chains to a white oak; and then South 3° East 4.75 chains to the beginning.<sup>24</sup>

This closed Henry Howser's wheeling and dealing with the Hambrights which had brought him ownership of an additional 228 acres on Kings Creek northeast of his father's Home Place.

Henry Howser, in the meantime, had purchased from John and Mary Caveny on March 15, 1830, for \$150, a 317-acre tract on Burrell Branch adjoining the Howser land. In platting the tract, the surveyor began at a white oak and proceeded South 73° East 150 chains to a pine on Black Hill; then North 30° East 31 chains to a chestnut; then North 21° East 50 chains to a spanish oak; then South 77° East 20.58 chains to a hickory (Henry Howser's corner); then South 28° West 25 chains to a black oak (Howser's corner); then South 49° East 12 chains to a white oak; then South 9° East 13 chains to a hickory; then North 66° East 35.50 chains to a post oak; then North 23° East 19.50 chains to a post oak; then South 29° East 65 chains to a stake (Dover's corner); then South 40° East 55 chains to a stake (Dover's corner); then South 40° East \_\_\_\_\_ to a pine (Robert Caveny's corner); then with Caveny's line to his corner on Polly Case's line; and then up Polly Case's line to the beginning.<sup>25</sup>

Shared and D. James on November 14, 1831, conveyed to Henry Howser II a 100-acre tract, more or less, on Jumping Branch. The boundary of the land conveyed began at a post oak (John Collins's boundary); then South 48° East 36 chains to a hickory; then South 69° West 25.75 chains to a pine; then South 65° West 5.25 chains to a pine; then North 45° West 17.50 chains to a red oak; then North 5° West 22.50 chains to a post oak; then North 42° East 7.50 chains to a spanish oak; then South 30° East 4 chains to a red oak; and then South 75° East 14.25 chains to the beginning.<sup>26</sup>

---

24. York County Deed Book M, p. 192, York County Court-house, York, S.C.

25. Ibid., p. 121.

26. Ibid., p. 485.



D. Faithy Howser as Owner

1. Faithy Howser Acquires the Home Place

Henry Howser II died unexpectedly on August 18, 1842. Since he left no will, his widow, Faithy, and Abraham Hardin petitioned the Probate Court for York District on September 3 to name them executors of the deceased's estate.

After considering the petition, Judge Benjamin Chambers named Faithy Howser and Abraham Hardin executors of Henry Howser's estate.<sup>27</sup>

Nine months later, on May 23, 1843, Mrs. Faithy Howser, James Goforth, Nancy Goforth, Elisa Henry, William Goforth, John F. Howser, George Goforth, and Alexander Henry petitioned the court, complaining that Henry Howser had died intestate. At his death, Howser had owned five tracts. These were: (a) a 178-acre tract on Kings Creek, known as Howser's Lower Mill Tract, bounded by lands belonging to Thomas Faulkner, William Blalock, and the Kings Mountain Iron Company; (b) a second 100-acre tract on Kings Creek (the Upper Mill Tract), bounded by property owned by James, Abner, David, and Madison Hambright; (c) a 106-acre tract on Kings Creek, known as the Christian Hambright place, bounded by lands of Madison and Elizabeth Hambright, S. Dixon, and the Howser Estate; (d) a 280-acre tract on Burrell Branch, adjoining lands of Edwards, Robert C. Caveny, Mary Dillingham, Mary Wear, and others; and (e) an 870-acre tract, the Home Place, on Kings Creek, and bounded by lands of Susanna Dixon, Aaron Whisonant, Elisha Herndon, Sarah Dillingham, and the Kings Mountain Iron Company.

The petitioners informed the court that Henry Howser II had left the following living "heirs at law": Faithy Howser, his widow, and his children, Jane Goforth, John Howser, Nancy Goforth, Eliza Henry, Robison Howser, Faithy L. Howser, Cyrus J. Howser, David R. Howser, and Harriet Howser. William Goforth, George Goforth, and Alexander Henry, having married respectively Jane, Nancy, and Eliza Howser (daughters of the deceased), had joined the petitioners.<sup>28</sup>

---

27. Henry Howser II, Probated Estate, Case 70, File 3464, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

28. Court of Equity, York District, Case No. 116, Petition of Faithy Howser et al., May 23, 1843, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

The court considered and approved the petition and named commissioners to examine and appraise the estate.

The commissioners (Hugh Borders, Joseph Whisonant, T. D. Fulton, and Abraham Hardin) examined and divided the lands described in the petition. They found that they could not be divided equally between the parties or by vesting title in one or more of the parties. It was discovered, however, that the widow's share could be "laid off to her without injury to the other parties." They accordingly recommended that a portion of the Home Place, including "the mansion house and improvements attached to the same represented" by the annexed plat be "vested in the widow." The subject tract consisted of 187 acres valued at \$2,017.93, which exceeded the widow's share of the estate by \$424.29. Faithy Howser would therefore pay \$47 to each of these heirs: William Goforth, John Howser, George Goforth, Alexander Henry, Robison Howser, Faithy Howser, Cyrus J. Howser, Harriet Howser, and David Howser.

The remainder of the Henry Howser estate was to be sold. This consisted of: (a) the balance of the Home Place, 688 acres, appraised at \$430; (b) the Lower Mill Tract of 178 acres valued at \$1,020; (c) the Burrell Tract of 276 acres at \$276; (d) the 103-acre Hambright Tract at \$503; and (e) the Upper Mill Tract of 95 acres worth \$504. The total value of the deceased's real estate was placed by the commissioners at \$4,786.93 in their June 6, 1843, report to the court.<sup>29</sup>

On August 23, 1843, William L. Clawson, Commissioner for York District, advertised that he would sell

on the first MONDAY in OCTOBER next at YORK COURT HOUSE, on credit of one and two years, with interest from day of sale, all the real estate of Henry Houser /sic dec'd., to make partition amongst the heirs of law of said Estate.

The lands to be sold consisted of 1,335 acres, divided into five separate tracts. These tracts were: (a) the balance of the Home Place, 688 acres, after deducting the widow's acreage;

---

29. Court of Equity, Case No. 116, York County, Faithy Howser et al. v. Robison H. Howser et al., York County Court-house, York, S.C.

(b) the Lower Mill Tract of 178 acres; (c) the Burrell Tract of 276 acres; (d) the 108-acre Hambright Tract; and (e) the 90-acre Upper Mill Tract.<sup>30</sup>

At the sale the last and highest bidders for each of the subject tracts were: the widow, Faithy Howser, for the 688-acre Home Place; Mrs. Jane Goforth for the Burrell Tract; John T. Howser for the Upper Mill Tract; Abraham Hardin for the Hambright place; and A. M. Henry for the Lower Mill Tract.<sup>31</sup>

## 2. Faithy Howser's Real Estate Transactions

Faithy Howser, assisted by her sons, David and Robison, farmed the Home Place for the next two decades. David died in 1864 and Robison in 1872. Following Robison's death, Faithy decided she was too old to operate the farm, and determined to sell.

On May 17, 1872, she sold the Mountain Place for \$1,000 to her daughter, Jane Goforth, of Cleveland County, North Carolina. This was a 402-acre tract on Kings Creek, bounded by the lands of A. W. Whisonant, William Howell, J. M. Hambright, Lewis Hambright, and others. The boundary of the subject tract was to begin at the ford of the creek; then North 40° West 21.50 chains to a spanish oak; then North 70° East 18.50 chains to a post oak; then South 50° East 10.50 chains to a red oak; then North 50° East 6 chains to a white oak; then North 75° East 5 chains to a stake; then South 34° East 2 chains to a stake; then North 67° East 4 chains to a stake; then South 81° East 2 chains to a stake; then North 41° East 18.50 chains to a chestnut stump; then North 67° East 4 chains to a stake; then North 80° East 22.50 chains to a red oak; then South 52° East 6 chains to a black oak; then South 62° East 1 chain to a black oak; then South 36° West 25.75 chains to a stake at an old fence; then South 70° East 13.50 chains to a black oak; then South 67° East 10.75 chains to a pine; then South 23° East 7.50 chains to a black oak; then South 18° East 47 chains to a spanish oak; then South 22° East 12 chains to a pine; then North 49° West 85 chains to a pine; then North 40° East 11.50 chains to a stake; then North 70° West 11.50 chains to a dogwood; then South 50° West 9 chains to a hickory;

---

30. "Commissioner's Sale," Court of Equity, Case No. 116, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

31. Court of Equity, Case No. 116, York County, "Terms of Sale," York County Courthouse, York, S.C.



then North 28° West 9 chains to an ash on the banks of Kings Creek; and then "about" South 74° West 19.75 chains with the meander of the creek to the beginning.<sup>32</sup>

Faithy Howser, on the same day, sold to Mary Ellen Howser, her daughter-in-law, for \$1,800, a 309-acre tract on Kings Creek, bounded by lands of A. W. Whisonant, Jane Goforth, J. M. Hambright, James Dillingham, and her own. The boundary of the tract was to begin at a stake on the Whisonant line and Jane Goforth's corner; then South 40° East 20.50 chains to two box elders on the creek bank; then with the meanders of Kings Creek North 74° East 19.75 chains to an ash; then South 20° East 9 chains to a hickory; then North 50° East 7.50 chains to a stake; then South 70° East 11.50 chains to a stake; then South 40° West 11.50 chains to a pine; then South 59° East 42 chains to a rock; then South 45° West 36.50 chains to a spanish oak; then North 68° West 16 chains to a maple; then North 50° West 23.50 chains to a black oak; then North 50° West 22 chains to a pine; then South 70° West 2 chains to a stake; then North 22° West 22.50 chains to a poplar; then North 51° West \_\_\_\_\_; and then North 5° West 9 chains to the beginning.

Faithy Howser reserved to herself during her lifetime, out of the acreage conveyed, the "dwelling now occupied by me together with the old buildings and gardens and patches thereunto attached and the use of firewood." At her death, this reserved property was "to come into full and absolute possession" of Mary Ellen Howser.<sup>33</sup>

On September 13, 1875, Mary Ellen Howser of York County sold to Faithy Howser for \$1,000 all the land, about 50 acres, on the west side of Kings Creek, purchased more than three years before. The boundary of the tract conveyed was to begin at Elijah Hardin's corner on the west side of the creek; then up the west bank of the stream to a box elder, Jane Goforth's corner; then northwest with the Goforth line to a spanish oak on Whisonant's line; then with Whisonant's line along the spring branch, to a stake; then down the branch to its intersection with Elijah Hardin's line; and then with the Hardin line to the beginning.<sup>34</sup>

Two months later, on November 6, Mary Ellen Howser reconveyed to Faithy Howser for \$800 the remainder of the Home Place tract (259 acres) which she had acquired title to in 1872.<sup>35</sup>

Jane Goforth, on November 9, 1876, reconveyed to her mother the 409-acre Mountain Place.<sup>36</sup>

---

32. York County Deed Book Y, p. 126, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

33. York County Deed Book Y, p. 127, York County Courthouse, York, S.C. Mary Ellen Howser was Robison's widow.

34. York County Deed Book Z, pp. 595-96, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

35. Ibid. pp. 638-39.

36. Ibid.

## E. The Howells and the Home Place

### 1. The Liquidation of the Faithy Howser Estate

Faithy Howser died on December 1, 1882, leaving as her heirs at law her children J. T. Howser, Jane Goforth, Harriet Howell, Faithy Wilson, Nancy Buchanan, and Elizabeth Henry.

Two of the children, John T. Howser and Jane Goforth, filed a petition with the Court of Common Pleas for York County to compel a division of the estate. Named as defendants were the other heirs: Harriet Howell, Faithy Wilson, Nancy Buchanan, Elizabeth Henry, John H. Howser, Russell Howser, and Mary Howser.

It was observed by the plaintiffs that Faithy Howser had died intestate, leaving the plaintiffs and defendants as her only heirs at law. They pointed out that the plaintiffs and the first four defendants were sons and daughters of the deceased, and that the three last named (John H., Russell, and Mary) were grandchildren, being the children of Robison Howser, a predeceased son. They also pointed out that the husband of Faithy Howser had died more than 40 years before.

At the time of her death, Faithy Howser had been "seized and possessed" of the following tracts: (a) the Home Place of 137 acres adjoining lands of William Borders, James Dillingham, Jane Goforth, and others; and (b) the Mountain Place of 420 acres adjoining lands of James Dillingham, William Love, Jane Goforth, and others. Moreover, the plaintiffs continued, it was unprofitable to hold the subject land in common. Finally, it had been ascertained that the personal assets of the deceased's estate, in the hands of the executors, would more than pay all claims.<sup>37</sup>

On December 11, 1883, after studying the case, the court made its decision. It was decreed that the clerk of the court, "after first duly advertising the same for 21 days in the Yorkville Enquirer do sell the lands described in the pleading on the first Monday in January next." The subject real estate would be sold in five separate tracts as recommended by the commissioners, and in accordance with the plat filed by Surveyor Hardin.<sup>38</sup>

---

37. J. T. Howser et al. v. Harriet Howell et al., File 16, Case 1229, Court of Common Pleas for York County, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

38. Ibid. The Hardin plat of the subject real estate is missing from File 16, Case 1229.

The court-appointed commissioners (H. Martin, Elijah Hardin, and F. H. Dover) had recommended on November 29, 1883, that the real estate be sold in five lots:

Lot No. 1	part of the Home Place	60 acres valued at \$20 per acre
Lot No. 2	part of the Home Place	36 acres valued at \$18 per acre
Lot No. 3	part of Mountain Place	177 acres valued at \$1 per acre
Lot No. 4	part of Mountain Place	162 acres valued at \$1 per acre
Lot No. 5	part of Mountain Place	186 acres valued at \$3 per acre <sup>39</sup>

Terms of the sale would be one-half in cash, with the balance on a credit of 12 months, with interest from the date of sale. The purchaser, if on credit, was to give bond and mortgage.

It was ordered that, after payment of costs, the proceeds of the sale would be paid to the heirs according to their respective interest, "except as to the share of Jane Goforth, which will be retained in the hands of the court subject to a further ruling."<sup>40</sup>

Joseph T. Wallace, as clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for York County, on January 9, 1884, sold to William Borders for \$476 Tracts Nos. 2 and 4 of the Faithy Howser estate. The former, a 36-acre tract, was on Kings Creek and adjoined the lands of William Borders and James Dillingham, while the latter of 162 acres, more or less, adjoined lands of Dillingham and others.<sup>41</sup>

Five days before, on January 4, Clerk Wallace had sold Tract No. 5 (186 acres) of the estate to A. F. Hambright for \$46.<sup>42</sup>

---

39. Ibid.

40. Ibid. Jane Howser Goforth had died on November 16, 1883.

41. York County Deed Book D4, pp. 620-21, York County Court-house, York, S.C

42. Ibid., pp. 633-34.

On January 14, 1884, Clerk Wallace sold Tract No. 3 (177 acres) to M. R. Wells for \$23. Tract No. 3 adjoined lands belonging to John Goforth, William Borders, and Lawson Howell.<sup>43</sup>

Clerk Wallace, on January 14, 1884, accepted a promissory note for \$1,635 from Lawson Howell, a son of Harriet Howser Lawson, for Tract No. 1 (the Home Place) of the Faithy Howser estate. This 60-acre tract, as indicated on Ira Hardin's survey, included the "Rock House" and "part of the real estate of Faithy Howser deceased," adjoining tracts purchased by William Borders and M. R. Wells.

The mortgage was satisfied on January 8, 1885, and Lawson Howell received clear title to the two-story stone house, the outbuildings, and 60 adjoining acres.<sup>44</sup>

## 2. Lawson Howell Adds to His Farm

Within the year, Howell increased his acreage by purchasing several parcels from the heirs of Jane Howser Goforth (William Goforth, H. P. Goforth, W. H. Goforth, D. H. Goforth, Frank Goforth, Charles Goforth, Robert Goforth, Caroline Goforth, Jane Goforth, Ida Goforth, Lettie Goforth, Julia Miller, Carrie Hoke, Callie Hoke, Robert C. Hoke, William Hoke, and Benjamin Hoke) for \$500. Tract A was bounded by real estate owned by William Borders, B. F. Turner, and the Jane Goforth estate. Its boundary began at a box elder on the bank of Kings Creek and ran North 40° West 20.50 chains to a spanish oak; then North 70° East 18.50 chains to a post oak; then South 50° East 10.50 chains to a rock; then North 50° East 6 chains to a white oak; then South 50° East 10.50 chains to bank of Kings Creek; and then with the stream to the beginning. This tract contained 61 acres, less a 1-3/4-acre lot conveyed to William Borders and the 1/2-acre lot sold to B. T. Turner.

Tract B of four acres was on the east side of Kings Creek. In running its boundaries, the surveyor began at a stake on the bank of Kings Creek, at the mouth of a small branch; then with a plantation road to a small dogwood at the edge of the road,

---

43. Ibid., pp. 735-36.

44. York County Mortgage Book LL, pp. 26-7, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

an old corner; then South 46<sup>0</sup> West 9 chains to a hickory; and then North 18<sup>0</sup> West 9 chains to the beginning.<sup>45</sup>

Before his death, in September 1911, Lawson Howell purchased Lot 3 of his grandmother's (Faithy Howser's) estate from M. R. Wells.<sup>46</sup>

F. The Howser House Tract Becomes one of Jenkins's Farms

1. Jenkins Purchases 212 Acres of the Jane Goforth Farm

Jane Howser Goforth had died intestate on November 16, 1883, leaving as her heirs her husband (William), H. P. Goforth, Frank Goforth, Robert Goforth, Lottie Goforth, Mary P. Goforth, Charles L. Goforth, David H. Goforth, William H. Goforth, Caroline Hambright, Jane Howell, Faithy Hoke, Robert C. Hoke, Benjamin L. Hoke, William P. Hoke, Caroline Carpenter, and Claude Miller. By the time a suit was brought in 1892 for division of the real estate, the husband was dead and all the heirs, except Robert C. Hoke and Claude Miller, were of age.<sup>47</sup>

The Court of Common Pleas for York County found that after his wife's death, William Goforth had conveyed to Mary E. and Charlotte Goforth his interest in the subject real estate, for which a writ of partition was sought. A review of property deeds showed the court that at her death, Jane Goforth owned 360 acres.

On July 8, 1893, after examining all the evidence, the court ordered the subject real estate to be sold by the clerk at the York Courthouse on the first Monday of November, after being advertised, for one-third cash and the balance in two equal annual payments. The real estate to be sold was bounded

---

45. York County Deed Book C5, p. 18; and 22, p. 85, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

46. Cherokee County Deed Book U, pp. 280-81, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C.

47. The Hokes and Caroline Carpenter were the children of Faithy Goforth Hoke who had died intestate. Claude Miller was the son of Julia Goforth Miller, also deceased.



by lands of J. W. Hambright, Lewis Hambright, William Henningway, H. R. Howser, and the Faithy Howser estate, and included 402 acres, more or less, as shown on a plat filed by Abraham Hardin on May 17, 1872, less 61 acres. The aforementioned acreage off the northwest corner of the property, on Kings Creek, had been sold to Lawson Howell.<sup>48</sup>

On March 29, 1894, Clerk of the Court W. B. Wylie conveyed to Lottie and Ida Goforth, as the highest and last bidders, Tract A (120 acres) for \$200. As surveyed by W. N. Elder, the boundary of the 120 acres began on the bank of Kings Creek; then South 29° East 2.50 chains; then North 64° East 4.25 chains to a stake; then South 79° East 2 chains to a stake; then North 43° East 18.50 chains to a chestnut stump; then North 69° East 4.12 chains to a stake; then 4.65 chains to a corner; then South 17° East 23.20 chains to a stake; then South 24° to a pine; then North 75° West 21 chains to a stake; then North 42° East 3.90 chains to a stake; then 68° West 11.50 chains to a stump; then North 74° West 9.50 chains to Kings Creek; and then with the stream 21.65 chains to the beginning.<sup>49</sup>

J. J. Whisonant was the "highest and last bidder" for lots B-D, for which he paid \$627. Tract B consisted of a 100-acre lot beginning at the north point of the Goforth Subdivision and running South 68° East 13 chains to a stake; then South 63° East 10.75 chains to a pine stump; then South 20° East 7.50 chains to a stake; then South 16° East 27 chains to a stake; then North 32.50 chains to corner on branch; then North 17.85 chains to a pine; and then North 24.50 chains to the beginning.

Tract C of 75 acres began at a stake and pointers at north-east corner of the Goforth Subdivision and ran South 16° East 20 chains to a stake; then South 7° West 18 chains to a pine; then North 47° West 47 chains to a stake and pointers; then North 5° to a corner near the branch; and then East 32.50 chains to the beginning.

---

48. Court of Common Pleas for York County, Case 2470, Box 37, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

49. York County Deed Book 15, pp. 432-33, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Tract D of 37 acres began at a stake and pointers at the northwest corner of the subject subdivision and then ran South 75° East 21 chains to a pine; then South 22° 85' to a stone and pointers; then North 47° West 35 chains to a pine; and then North 42° East 7.80 chains to a stake and pointers, the beginning.<sup>50</sup>

Whisonant conveyed the subject lots to R. R. Ray of McAdenville, North Carolina.<sup>51</sup>

Ray in turn conveyed the three lots, totalling 212 acres, to J. F. Jenkins of Cherokee County, South Carolina, for \$750.<sup>52</sup>

## 2. Jenkins Acquires the 279-Acre Howell Farm

Aaron and J. Grigg Howell (having inherited the family farm on the death of their father) sold four tracts for \$6,500 to J. F. Jenkins on December 20, 1918. Tract A consisted of 41 acres, more or less, on Kings Creek, bounded by real estate belonging to N. Borders, B. F. Turner, and Jenkins. The boundary of Tract A began at a box elder on the bank of Kings Creek and ran North 40° West 20.50 chains to a spanish oak; then North 70° East 18.50 chains to a post oak; then South 50° East 10.50 chains to a rock; then North 50° East 6 chains to a large white oak on the bank of Kings Creek; and then with the creek to the beginning. Excepted from this tract were the 1-3/4-acre lot conveyed to N. Borders by the Goforth estate and the 1/2-acre lot sold to B. F. Turner.

Tract B, likewise on the east side of Kings Creek, consisted of 4 acres. The boundary began at a stake on the bank of the creek, at the mouth of a small branch; then running with a

---

50. York County Deed Book M13, pp. 338-40, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

51. A diligent search of the records found in the county clerk's office for York County failed to locate a deed documenting the conveyance of the subject real estate from Whisonant to Ray.

52. York County Deed Book 29, pp. 15-16, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

plantation road to a small dogwood on the side of the road, an old corner; then South 46° West 9 chains to a hickory; and then North 28° West 9 chains to the beginning.

Tract C, also on Kings Creek, included 61 acres embracing the "Rock House." This tract, No. 1 in the Hardin Survey of 1883, had adjoined lands purchased in January 1884 by M. B. Borders and M. R. Wells.

Tract D of 173 acres had been part of Faithy Howser's Mountain Place, and had been purchased by Lawson Howell from M. R. Wells. In describing the tract, original Lot No. 3 of the Hardin Survey, the recorder began at a pine, the old Goforth and Howell corner; then with Goforth's line South 47° East 83 chains to a pine (the Goforth and Hambright corner); then with Hambright's line South 65° West 16 chains to a dogwood; and then with Borders's line North 54° West 85 chains to the beginning.

Mineral rights to manganese on these four tracts had been previously conveyed by the Howells to mining interests.<sup>53</sup>

### 3. J. F. Jenkins Loses His Farms

J. F. Jenkins borrowed heavily in the early 1920s to finance his farming operations, putting up for security the several large farms he owned on the Kings Creek watershed. Rural America, especially the Cotton Belt states of the South, fell victim to the post-World War I agricultural depression. Jenkins was unable to make his interest payments, and on August 17, 1926, the State-Planters Bank and Trust Co. brought suit against Jenkins. The purpose of the suit, filed in the Court of Common Pleas for Cherokee County, was to obtain a judgment against Jenkins "in three causes of action on notes executed December 28, 1922," by him to the State and City Bank and Trust Co. of Richmond, Virginia, and secured by three mortgages on three farms in Cherokee County, South Carolina.<sup>54</sup>

---

53. Cherokee County Deed Book U, pp. 280-81, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C. Cherokee County was established in 1897, and included western York County, northern Union County, and northeastern Spartanburg County.

54. Judgment Roll No. 2890, Court of Common Pleas, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C.



The court, after hearing the evidence, on December 20, 1926, ruled against Jenkins, ordering the mortgages to be foreclosed, and the farms sold at public auction. After being duly advertised, the farms were sold on October 1, 1928. The highest and last bidder for Farm No. 1 of 487-1/4 acres were the following three banks of Gaffney: Merchants and Planters National Bank, American State Bank, and the First National Bank. The price was \$5,800.

In the deed of conveyance, Farm No. 1 (which included much of the Howser Home Place) was described as being in Cherokee Township, Cherokee County, South Carolina, "about two miles southeast of Grover, on both sides of the public road leading from Grover, and being on both sides of Kings Creek." It included two tracts. The first had been conveyed to Jenkins by R. R. Ray by deed of March 13, 1905, and recorded in York County, and the second had been purchased by Jenkins from Aaron and J. Gregg Howell in 1918.

This farm, known as the Rock House Tract, had been surveyed by S. B. Vassy in the winter of 1927-28 and contained 493.74 acres. The plat prepared by Vassy of his survey had been recorded in the Cherokee County Clerk's Office, in Deed Book 2F, pp. 614-15.<sup>55</sup>

One of the two remaining Jenkins farms foreclosed on by the State-Planters Bank and Trust Company was the 543.61-acre Dillingham Farm, which bounded the Rock House Farm on the south. This farm, which Jenkins had purchased from A. G. Dillingham on October 20, 1919, was advertised and sold by the Clerk of the Court Thomas Caldwell for \$12,500 to the State-Planters Bank and Trust of Richmond, Virginia.<sup>56</sup>

Included in the Dillingham Farm was Lot No. 4 of the Faithy Howser estate. A. G. Dillingham had purchased this 162-acre tract, bounded by his own land and that belonging to Lawson Howell and A. Hambright, from William Borders on January 5, 1898.

---

55. Cherokee County Deed Book 2N, pp. 124-25, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C.

56. Cherokee County Deed Book X, pp. 217-19; and 2E, pp. 296-98, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C.

Not conveyed to Dillingham were "all stock timber suitable for saw logs" and rights to the manganese deposits on the tract which Borders had previously sold.<sup>57</sup>

G. The United States Acquires the Howser House

The United States in 1934 took an option to purchase from the Merchants and Planters Bank of Gaffney the Rock House Farm (Tract 17), less 89 acres on the west side of Kings Creek previously sold to other parties. It was January 1938 before a price, \$6,022.50, was agreed on for the 402 acres and all the papers signed and recorded. Fee simple title to the Howser House and the adjacent acreage was now vested in the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior, as an agency of the United States.<sup>58</sup>

---

57. Cherokee County Deed Book B, p. 373, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C.

58. Ltr., Yancey A. McLoud to Carl McFarland, Jan. 20, 1938, files KMNMP.

## III. THE HOWSER HOUSE AND ITS OCCUPANTS, 1803-1938

### A. Henry Howser I and the House

#### 1. Henry Howser I Comes to America

Almost nothing is known about Henry Howser I prior to his arrival in Lincoln County, North Carolina. A grandson, Henry Howser, who was living in north Georgia in the 1890s told the compilers of Memoirs of Georgia, when they were assembling material for his biography, that his paternal grandfather, Henry Howser I, was born in Germany in 1756, and immigrated to the colonies before the Revolutionary War. Grandfather Howser landed at Boston and then traveled to Pennsylvania.

A stonemason by trade, Henry Howser built a number of iron furnaces in western Pennsylvania, before migrating down the great valley to the Piedmont Region of North Carolina.

A great-great-grandson, A. Love, recalled that the Howsers were of "sturdy Dutch extraction" who had migrated to the Piedmont by way of Pennsylvania.<sup>1</sup>

#### 2. Henry Howser I in Lincoln County, North Carolina

By the spring of 1784, Henry Howser was living in Lincoln County, North Carolina. In April of that year, he was called as a juror to hear the case of Adlia Osborn v. Wel Lamkin.<sup>2</sup>

Howser, in the autumn of 1784, secured a 200-acre land grant in Lincoln County from Governor Alexander Martin of North Carolina. The tract granted to Howser was in Lincoln County,

---

1. Memoirs of Georgia; Containing Historical Accounts of the State and Military, Industrial and Professional Interests, and Personal Sketches of Many of its People (Atlanta, 1895), 2 vols.; Elizabeth Reed, "Howser Home Built in 1803," Rock Hill Evening Herald, June 9, 1949. Born in York in 1820, Henry Howser III was the son of David and Jane Howser.

2. April 1784 Term of Court of Common Pleas and Quarter Sessions for Lincoln County, typescript, County Library, Lincolnton, N.C.

"on the waters of Howard's Creek, joining lands of Nathaniel Erwin, Waddle, & Alexander, including William Thompson's improvement."

In marking the boundary, the surveyor began at a post oak and ran the line North  $10^{\circ}$  East 80 poles to a white oak, one of Alexander's corners; then South  $80^{\circ}$  East 34 poles along Alexander's line to a post oak; then North  $4^{\circ}$  West 182 poles with Waddle's line to a spanish oak; then North  $86^{\circ}$  West 38 poles with Erwin's line; then with Erwin's line South  $30^{\circ}$  West 140 poles to a post oak on Waddle's line; then with Waddle's line North  $60^{\circ}$  West 112 poles to a spanish oak; then South  $30^{\circ}$  West 88 poles to a black oak; and then to the beginning.<sup>3</sup>

Six years later, on November 7, 1790, Governor Martin, in consideration of £10 for every 100 acres, granted to Henry Howser and Nicholas Havener 250 acres in Lincoln County, adjoining lands of Howser, Nathaniel Erwin, Samuel Howard, and Peter Harpill.

The boundary began at a post oak sapling on Erwin's line and ran North  $63^{\circ}$  West 154 poles to a stake; then South  $20^{\circ}$  West 20 poles to a sassafras on Michael Fladder Miller's line; then with Fladder Miller's line South  $30^{\circ}$  East 168 poles to a post oak; then with Fladder Miller's line South  $60^{\circ}$  West 180 poles to a black oak sapling near a branch on Sam Howard's line; then South  $35^{\circ}$  East 16 poles with Howard's line to a black oak, Howard's corner; then North  $59^{\circ}$  East 50 poles with Harpill's line to a post oak, Harpill's corner; then South  $5^{\circ}$  East 130 poles with Harpill's line to a post oak, Nicholas Havener's corner; then East with Havener's line 140 poles to a post oak, on Peter Plank's corner; then North  $2^{\circ}$  West 220 poles to a pine; then South  $83^{\circ}$  East 16 poles to a black oak; and then with Howser's line to the beginning.<sup>4</sup>

By this time, however, Henry Howser had moved from Lincoln County to York County, South Carolina. Having left North Carolina, Howser in 1793 sold part of his land in

---

3. Lincoln County Grant Book 1, pp. 139-40, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, N.C.

4. Lincoln County Grant Book 3, pp. 12-13, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, N C.

Lincoln County. On February 9 of that year, he and Nicholas Havener sold to Christian Horse for £20 a 132-acre tract on Leonard Fork. The boundary of the subject tract began at a post from which it ran North 63° West 154 poles to a stake; then South 20° West 20 poles to a sassafras; then South 30° West 168 poles to a post oak; then South 60° West 60 poles to a black oak; then South 65° East 20 poles to a post oak on Peter Plank's line; then South 83° East 16 poles to \_\_\_\_\_; and then to the beginning.<sup>5</sup>

As the years passed, Henry Howser disposed of the remainder of his Lincoln County real estate.

### 3. The Howsers Move to South Carolina

Henry Howser on January 10, 1788, purchased a 125-acre tract on Kings Creek, South Carolina, from John and Eve Hofsteller. Howser promptly moved his family south. Undoubtedly, a prime motive dictating the move was a desire to settle in a community where some of his neighbors would be German-speaking. His closest neighbors on Kings Creek would be the Hambrights and the Whisonants.

The removal from Howard's Creek was facilitated by the road leading south from Lincolnton to York Courthouse by way of Kings Mountain. We know that Henry Howser was living on his South Carolina property by July 7, 1789, when he enlarged his Kings Creek holdings by purchase of another 120 acres.<sup>6</sup>

Henry Howser was on Kings Creek in the summer of 1790 when the enumerator for the First Census called. Living with him were two free white males under 16 (one-year-old Jacob and two-year-old John), a white male 16 or over (a relative or a hired man), and three white females (Jane Dixon Howser and two others).<sup>7</sup>

---

5. Lincoln County Deed Book 16, pp. 375-76, Lincoln County Courthouse, Lincolnton, N.C.

6. York County Deed Book B, pp. 50-51, 239-40, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

7. First Census, York County, South Carolina, p. 192, National Archives.

#### 4. The South Carolina Years

##### a. The First 12 Years

For the last decade of the eighteenth century, we have only one reference to Henry Howser in the York County records. In February 1795, Henry Howser was among the jurors impanelled for the next term of the court of common pleas.<sup>8</sup>

The enumerator for the Second Census called at Henry Howser's place in the summer of 1800, after stopping at Col. Frederick Hambright's, and before continuing on to James Quinn's. Because the page on which the enumerator made his entries is mutilated, columns listing the number of "Free White Females" 16-26, 26-45, and 45 and over are missing, as well as the one in which the number of slaves is tabulated. The incomplete census of the household lists three boys under 10 (David, Henry, and Jacob), one 10-16 (John), the father, 45 and over, and two females under 10.<sup>9</sup>

##### b. Henry and Jane Howser Build a Mansion

In the first decade of the nineteenth century, Henry and Jane Dixon Howser built their handsome, two-story stone mansion. During this period, Henry became increasingly interested in land. Real estate was bought and sold, as Howser enlarged his farm. Along with his mansion, the additional acreage added to his social status. He also became a slaveholder. In December 1810 the enumerator for the Third Census listed Howser as owner of three slaves. He was one of the six slaveholders in the neighborhood.<sup>10</sup>

As a freeholder, Henry Howser continued to be called for jury duty. In April 1802 he traveled to York to serve as a juror.<sup>11</sup>

---

8. February 1795 Term of Court of Common Pleas, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

9. Second Census, York District, South Carolina, p. 962, National Archives.

10. Third Census, York District, South Carolina, pp. 643, 646, National Archives.

11. April 1802 term of Court of Common Pleas, York



On December 27, 1810, when the enumerator for the Third Census called, there were residing in the stone house: two males 10-16 (David and Henry), two males 16-26 (John and Jacob), one female under 10, one female 10-16, one female 16-26, and Henry and Jane Dixon Howser.<sup>12</sup>

c. The Twilight Years

In the years between 1808 and 1821, Henry Howser was the plaintiff in two civil actions heard by the Court of Common Pleas for York District. The May 1808 term of the court heard the case of Henry Howser v. John Mooney for trespass. Howser won the case, with Mooney ordered to pay costs.<sup>13</sup> A year before his death, Howser had his lawyer, Robert Clendinen, bring suit against Jacob Stroup for failure to retire a promissory note for \$220 drawn in February 1817. Clendinen won the case for Howser, and Stroup was ordered to pay the plaintiff \$109.50, as well as court costs.<sup>14</sup>

Henry Howser sold land to two of his sons, John and Henry II, on which they could establish farms of their own, since they were coming of age and marrying. David, although he continued to reside in the community, had use of the farm his father owned in Rutherford County, North Carolina. Jacob had died at age 22 in 1811, and was laid to rest in the family cemetery, several hundred yards east of the stone house.

His daughters also were marrying, becoming brides of Jacob Sapoh, Henry Havener, John Whisonant, Joshua Moss, and Gilbreth Dixon.

Howser's wife and the mother of his children, Jane Dixon, died during the second decade of the nineteenth century and

---

District, Minutes, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

12. Third Census, York District, South Carolina, p. 643, National Archives.

13. Judgment Book, Court of Common Pleas, York District, Case 367, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

14. Judgment Book, Court of Common Pleas, York District, Case 1058, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

was laid to rest in the family cemetery near Jacob.<sup>15</sup> Henry did not remain a widower. A short time after Jane's death, Henry married Christina (Christinea) Whisonant, a lady of his own age.

When the enumerator for the Fourth Census called at the stone house in 1820, the only residents were Henry Howser and his wife, both listing their ages as "45 and over." Henry Howser continued to be a slaveholder, owning four blacks.

He listed his occupations as stonemason and distiller. These were in addition to his farming activities. Among the heads of families entered on page 171 by the enumerator, three others besides Howser were listed as distillers--Edward Bird, Henry Whisonant, and Frederick Hambright. Two of these (Bird and Hambright) were not currently operating their stills.<sup>16</sup>

The distilling of spirits was a common practice in isolated regions like the Kings Creek community. A cash crop, such as corn, if converted into whiskey, could be forwarded to market over the primitive byways of the region easier and cheaper than as grain or fodder.

#### d. Henry Howser Passes On

Henry Howser I died on March 4, 1822, in his 66th year and was laid to rest in the family cemetery. In anticipation of death, Howser, on March 2, had drawn his last will and testament. The provisions disposing of his estate read:

First I will and bequeath to my wife Christina Howser the following property--Her Walnut chest and wearing apparel with Her Bed and furniture and a four legged Walnut Table two cows and One Hundred Dollars cash.

---

15. Last Will and Testament of Henry Howser I, Case 23, File 960, York County Probate Court, York, S.C.; inscriptions on tombstones, Howser Family Cemetery.

16. Fourth Census, York District, South Carolina, p. 171, National Archives.



Second I will and bequeath to my son John Howser Two Hundred Dollars that I have paid him out of the estate.

Thirdly I will and bequeath to my son Henry Howser two Hundred Dollars paid to him out of the estate.

Fourthly I will and bequeath to my son David Howser (the tract of land on Cain Creek, Rutherford County, N.C., purchased of John Patterson) one half of which divided according to value I will and bequeath to him at five Hundred Dollars value.

Fifthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Jacob Sapoh Two Hundred and fifty Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

Sixthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Henry Hanvae /Havener/ two Hundred Dollars paid to Him out of my Estate.

Seventhly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law John Whisonant two Hundred Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

Eighthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Joshua Moss ninety-one Dollars and fifty cents paid to him out of my Estate.

Ninthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Gilbreth Dixon Eighty Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

Tenthly I will and bequeath that tract of land whereon I now live together with 18 acres I purchased of Robert Black adjoining said tract also 3 and 4/10 acres purchased of Nicholson Whisonant, Sr., adjoining said tract likewise, also two tracts being surveys I made adjoining said land, one containing one hundred and thirty nine acres and the other four hundred and sixty acres, all to be sold together on a credit of 12 months to the highest bidder at day and place of sale.

Eleventhly I will and bequeath that my 1000 acre survey on Branch of Clarks fork, adjoining McElwee's Land, Hambright's Land and Situated in York District, So. Carolina, to be sold to the Highest bidder.

Twelvthly I will and bequeath that my Negro Man Ned be sold at Public Sale to the highest bidder also my Negro Man Ben to be sold and my Negro Woman Franky with her two children to be also sold.

Thirteenthly I will and bequeath that my stock of Horses and Cattle with my Waggon and Harness be all sold together with all other Stock, Hogs, sheep & Farming Utensils and Household Furniture be all sold in like manner--with one Still and vessels, with Smith Tools, Including all the rest of my Estate to be sold as above.

Fourteenthly--I will and bequeath that an Equal divide be made among my Heirs after subtracting what has already been received by each.<sup>17</sup>

As provided by law, Henry Howser's will was probated and his estate appraised. Commencing on April 15, a public sale was held at the stone house, and the property of the deceased sold to the "highest and last bidders." (See Appendices A-C for copies of Henry Howser's will, the appraisal of his personal property, and the report of the sale.)

Christina Howser soon moved out of the stone house, which became the home of Henry Howser II. The widow survived her husband by 34 years, not dying until October 30, 1856, at the age of 98. (See Appendix L for a copy of Christina Howser's will.)

---

17. Estate of Henry Howser, Case 23, File 960, York County Probate Court, York, S.C.

## B. Henry Howser II and the Property

### 1. Henry Howser II--Planter and Miller

Henry Howser II, the second oldest surviving son of Henry and Jane Howser, was 28 at his father's death. He was already married, having taken Faithy Jones as his wife. In 1820 the enumerator for the Fourth Census reported that the couple had one child, and that Henry made his livelihood from agriculture.<sup>18</sup>

Within 18 months of his father's death, Henry had sold his farm and moved onto the Home Place. It was not until January 11, 1832, however, that he acquired fee title to the property. On that date he paid \$3,100 for the "five small tracts" constituting "the plantation and mansion House whereon Henry Howser, the testor formerly lived." This consideration was divided and paid to the heirs by the executors.<sup>19</sup>

Henry Howser II in the meantime had been purchasing other nearby properties. A number of tracts northeast of the Home Place, belonging to various members of the Hambright family, were bought. The 95-acre tract purchased from Mary Hambright in the early 1830s included a mill, and henceforth it and several adjacent tracts were known as the Upper Mill Tract. To the southeast and adjoining the Home Place he purchased the 317-acre Caveny Place. Two properties, not contiguous to the Home Place, were also acquired. The more valuable of the two was on Kings Creek and consisted of 178 acres and a mill, while the other was a 100-acre tract on Jumping Branch.

In the summer of 1830 the enumerator for the Fifth Census called. He identified those living in the Henry Howser household as one boy under 5 (Robison), one boy 5-10 (John), two girls under 5 (Nancy and Eliza), one girl 5-10 (Jane), two women 20-30 (one of whom would have been Faithy),

---

18. Fourth Census, York District, South Carolina, p. 171, National Archives.

19. York County Deed Book L, pp. 485-87; Probated Will, Henry Howser, Case 23, File 960, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

and the head of the family. Henry Howser at this time owned five slaves.<sup>20</sup>

Ten years later, in 1840, the enumerator for the Sixth Census visited Kings Creek. He reported that the household now included, in addition to the mother and father, eight children: one boy under 5 (David), two boys 5-10 (Cyrus and Henry), one boy 15-20 (Robison), one girl under 5 (Harriet), one girl 5-10 (Faithy), one girl 10-15 (Eliza), and one girl 15-20 (Nancy). Since the last census, two of the Howser children (Jane and John) had married and had established homes of their own.

Henry Howser now owned four slaves. As heretofore, slaveholders were a minority in the community. Frederick Hambright had the most slaves, owning nine, while Sarah Dillingham, who now owned the plantation south of the Home Place, held the same number as Howser. Other local slaveholders owned no more than one or two blacks.<sup>21</sup>

## 2. The Division of the Estate

Henry Howser II died at age 48 on August 3, 1842. As he did not leave a will, it is probable that his death was unexpected. One month after his demise, his widow, Faithy, and Abraham Hardin petitioned Benjamin Chambers of the district probate court. Ordinary Chambers was advised that Henry Howser had died intestate, "leaving a considerable estate, real and personal," and a widow and nine children. As the estate was "not much indebted to any person or persons," the petitioners prayed that Ordinary Chambers would grant them "a citation to the kindred and creditors to show cause if any can be shown why they should not be qualified to take the administration" of the estate and then comply with the law.

Three weeks later, Chambers acted. On September 27 he named Faithy Howser and Abraham Hardin executors of the estate of Henry Howser.<sup>22</sup>

---

20. Fifth Census, York District, South Carolina, p. 377, National Archives.

21. Sixth Census, York District, South Carolina, p. 266, National Archives.

22. Henry Howser II, Probated Estate, Case 70, File 3464,

The executors were empowered by Ordinary Chambers to "expose to public sale at the late residence of the deceased on October 26-28," his personal estate to the highest bidders on 12-month credit.<sup>23</sup>

The sale was held as scheduled, the estate receiving \$6,129.40 from the auction of the deceased's personal property. (See Appendices D and E for the report of the appraisers and the results of the sale.)

In November 1842, the executors reported to Ordinary Chambers that the personal estate of the deceased amounted to \$6,129.40.

On a second return made by the executors in July 1844, they reported they were indebted to the estate for "tolls of Mill and rents on land" for \$104.44, and for \$80.75 in interest on notes, making a total of \$6,314.59.<sup>24</sup>

Meanwhile, the children of Henry and Faithy Howser had asked the York Court of Equity to partition the deceased's real estate. At his death Howser had owned five tracts: the 178-acre Lower Mill Tract; the 100-acre Upper Mill Tract; the 106-acre Christian Hambright place; the 280-acre Burrell Tract; and the 870-acre Home Place. The court approved the partition and named commissioners to view and appraise the property.

The commissioners, on examining the land, found that the widow's share could not be "laid off to her without injury to the other parties."

They accordingly recommended that a portion of the Home Place, including "the mansion house and improvements attached to the same represented" by the annexed plat be "vested in the

---

York County Probate Court, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

23. Ibid.

24. Ibid.

widow." This tract, consisting of 187 acres, was valued at \$2,017.93, which exceeded the widow's share of the estate by \$424.29. Faithy Howser would accordingly pay \$47 to each of the other nine heirs.

The remainder of the real estate, with the improvements thereon, was to be sold. The sale took place on the "first Monday in October" 1843. At the sale, Faithy Howser was the "highest and last bidder" for the 688 acres of the Home Place, adjoining the 187 acres previously awarded her as the widow's share of her husband's real estate.<sup>25</sup>

### C. Faithy Howser--40 Years a Farmer

#### 1. Faithy Howser Takes Charge

The death of Henry Howser II in August 1842 left his widow, Faithy, with the responsibility of raising a large family, managing the 1,524-acre farm, and overseeing the work of four slaves. Of the nine surviving children born to Henry and Faithy Howser, three of the five girls (Jane, Nancy, and Eliza) had married and were no longer living at home at their father's death. One of the couple's four sons, John, was of age.

At the liquidation of her husband's estate in 1843, Faithy Howser acquired the 875-acre Home Place, which included the "mansion house and improvements."<sup>26</sup> Assisted by the older of the six children living at home and the slaves, Faithy Howser successfully operated the farm, which no longer included the two mills. The mill tracts had been sold to her eldest son, John T., and a son-in-law, A. M. Henry. Although unable to read or write, Faithy Howser proved to be a good manager and held on to the property until her death at age 82 in 1882.

---

25. Court of Equity, York District, Case No. 116, May 23, 1843; Henry Howser, Probated Estate, Case 70, File 3464, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

26. Court of Equity, Case No. 116, York County, Faithy Howser et al. v. Robison H. Howser et al., York County Courthouse, York, S.C.; Seventh Census, York District, South Carolina, National Archives.



Because of her illiteracy, Faithy Howser left no letters to tell about her trials and tribulations during the years from 1842 to 1882. The South Carolina census returns, however, provide considerable information about agricultural activities on the farm, and about the social and economic revolution that the region passed through during these decades.

## 2. The Family and Farm in 1850

In July 1850, an enumerator for the Seventh Census spent several days on Kings Creek. Mrs. Faithy Howser, in answering his questions for the Agricultural Census, told the enumerator that she owned 900 acres, 100 of which were improved. She valued her farm at \$3,500 and her farm implements at \$140. In 1849 on the acreage under cultivation, she had raised 130 bushels of wheat, 700 bushels of corn, 40 bushels of oats, 5 bushels of irish potatoes, 10 bushels of sweet potatoes, and 10 tons of hay.

Mrs. Howser listed her livestock as 4 horses, 4 milk cows, 8 neat cattle, 1 sheep, and 13 hogs, valued at \$347. From her sheep she had clipped 10 pounds of wool, and from her cows' milk had churned 104 pounds of butter.

She also had an orchard, from which in 1849 she had picked fruit valued at \$20.

Mrs. Howser valued animals slaughtered on her farm in 1849 at \$68 and home manufactures at \$13.<sup>27</sup>

Like other local farmers, Mrs. Howser did not raise any cotton.<sup>28</sup>

Living with Mrs. Howser in the stone house were her 22-year-old son, Henry, two minor sons, (Cyrus, 17, and David R., 12), a 14-year-old daughter, Harriet L., and her 90-year-old widowed mother, Faithy Jones. The three minor children had attended school during the past year. In the eight years since her

---

27. Seventh Census, Schedule 4, Production in Agriculture, York District, July 1850, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

28. Ibid.

husband's death, her son, Robison, and daughter, Faithy, had married and had established homes of their own in the neighborhood.

Quartered on the farm were the three slaves (a mother and her two children) belonging to Mrs. Howser.<sup>29</sup>

### 3. The Family and Farm in 1860

Ten years later, in the summer of 1860, the enumerator for the Eighth Census for the Antioch and Boynton communities called on Faithy Howser. He again questioned her about her farm and crops. She informed him that she owned 800 acres, of which 200 had been improved. She valued her farm at \$6,000 and her farm implements at \$100. In 1859, from the 200 acres under cultivation, she had harvested 115 bushels of wheat, 900 bushels of corn, 10 bushels of irish potatoes, 14 bushels of sweet potatoes, and 7 tons of hay.

Mrs. Howser told the enumerator that she had 5 horses, 4 milk cows, 8 neat cattle, 2 sheep, and 18 hogs, valued at \$639. She also had several hives of bees. From her sheep she had clipped 4 pounds of wool, while from milk given by her cows she had churned 150 pounds of butter. Her bees had yielded 40 pounds of honey and 6 pounds of wax.

Mrs. Howser placed the value of livestock slaughtered on the farm in 1859 at \$112 and the value of home manufactures at \$20.<sup>30</sup>

Mrs. Howser, like her neighbors, did not plant cotton.<sup>31</sup>

In the ten years after the Seventh Census, the family living in the stone house shrank from six to two, leaving only Mrs. Howser and her 21-year-old son, David. Sons Henry and Cyrus had died, Henry at an undesignated date and Cyrus in 1857, as did her mother, while daughter, Harriet, married a Mr. Howell. Quartered in the farm's two slave quarters were

---

29. Seventh Census, Population Schedules, York District, South Carolina, National Archives.

30. Eighth Census, 4th Schedule, Production in Agriculture, York District, 1860, South Carolina Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

31. Ibid.



3 blacks--one female and two young males. Except for grief over deaths of loved ones, the 1850s had been prosperous for the Widow Howser. In reply to the enumerator's questions regarding property values, she placed her real estate at \$6,000 and her personal property at \$4,214.<sup>32</sup>

#### 4. The Farm in 1870

The decade of the 1860s found the nation torn asunder by the Civil War. With the defeat of the South, Mrs. Howser's slaves gained their freedom. She now had to hire hands to help operate the farm. The death of her youngest son, David, in August 1864 complicated her task.

In the summer of 1870, when the enumerator for the Ninth Census called, Faithy Howser was employing four farm hands, all of whom lived on the property. Two of the hands were William and Sarah Aveny, a black couple. Living with the Avenys were their five children and Mr. Aveny's sister, Fanny. The fourth laborer was James Hambright, a 22-year-old white. Also residing on the property, but not in the stone house, was one of Faithy Howser's two surviving sons, Robison, his wife, and their four children.<sup>33</sup>

When the enumerator questioned Faithy Howser about her farm, she told him that she owned 250 acres, 200 of which were in woods and 50 under cultivation. On her improved acreage in 1869, she had raised 30 bushels of wheat and 300 bushels of corn.

Asked about her livestock, the Widow Howser told the enumerator that she had 4 horses, 3 milk cows, 3 neat cattle, 14 sheep, and 6 hogs, which she valued at \$400. From her sheep, she had clipped 24 pounds of wool, and from her cows' milk had

---

32. Eighth Census, Population Schedule, York District, South Carolina. Faithy Jones had died on Dec. 21, 1856, in her 97th year. She was buried in the Antioch Cemetery next to her husband, who had died at age 77 in Apr. 1844. Tombstone Inscriptions, Antioch Baptist Church, Kings Creek, S.C.

33. Ninth Census, Population Schedule, York County, South Carolina.

churned 104 pounds of butter. Her farm had also produced 60 gallons of sorghum molasses.

From her orchard, Mrs. Howser had picked \$100 worth of apples and peaches.

Mrs. Howser valued her farm at \$600, her farm implements at \$25, and the value of farm products in 1869 at \$779.<sup>34</sup>

Robison Howser reported to the enumerator that he owned 130 acres, 30 of which were under cultivation. In 1869, on his improved acreage, he had harvested 65 bushels of wheat and 250 bushels of corn.

He listed his livestock as 3 horses, 3 milk cows, 7 neat cattle, 12 sheep, and 10 hogs, which he valued at \$250. From his sheep in 1869 he had clipped 20 pounds of wool, and from his cows' milk had produced 52 pounds of butter.

Robison Howser valued his acreage at \$400, his farm implements at \$10, and estimated the value of his farm products in 1869 at \$682.<sup>35</sup>

#### 5. The Farm in 1880

By June 28, 1880, when the enumerator for the Tenth Census called, Robison Howser had died and his widow and children had moved off the place. .Faithy Howser, having repurchased from her daughter, Jane Goforth, and her daughter-in-law, Mary Ellen Howser, acreage she had disposed of in the 1870s, now owned 460 acres, 27 of which were under cultivation, 428 in timber, 3 in meadow, and 2 in old fields. She told Enumerator Deal that her farm, including improvements, was worth \$1,300.

---

34. Ninth Census, 4th Schedule, Production in Agriculture, York County, 1870, South Carolina Department of Archives and History. Mrs. Howser placed the value of home manufactures at \$30 in 1869 and the value of livestock slaughter during the same period at \$125.

35. Ibid.

In 1879 she had planted 13 acres in corn from which she harvested 300 bushels; 3 acres in oats which yielded 25 bushels; 6 acres in wheat from which she harvested 32 bushels; 4 acres in cotton from which 2 bales had been picked; and 1/2-acre in sorghum which produced 54 gallons of molasses.

A review of the Tenth Census reveals that it was the decade of the 1870s before the farmers of Kings Creek began growing cotton as a money crop. Heretofore few local planters and farmers had mentioned growing cotton to the enumerators for the Seventh, Eighth, and Ninth Censuses.

Mrs. Howser reported that, because of old age, she had disposed of most of her livestock. She now owned 1 horse, 1 milk cow, 1 neat cow, and 1 hog, which she valued at \$53. During the previous 12 months, her milk cow had dropped one calf, while one of her neat cattle had died or strayed. From the milk of her cow, she had churned 30 pounds of butter.

She had 12 chickens, from which in 1879 she had collected 12 dozen eggs.

Mrs. Howser told Enumerator Deal that her 1-1/2-acre orchard contained 20 apple trees and 50 peach trees. From her wood lot she had cut 10 cords of wood.

In 1879 she had hired 80 weeks of labor to assist her in operating the farm, for which she had paid \$265. Mrs. Howser placed the value of all products marketed in 1879 from the farm at \$397.<sup>36</sup>

#### 6. Recollections of Faithy Howser

An article by Elizabeth Reed appeared on June 9, 1949, in the Rock Hill Evening Herald, describing the history of the Howser House. Miss Reed had secured her information on the structure from A. Love, a "well-known" Kings Creek businessman.

---

36. Tenth Census, 4th Schedule, Production in Agriculture, York County, 1880, South Carolina, Department of Archives and History.

A great-grandson of Henry and Faithy Howser, Love confused his great-grandfather with his great-great-grandfather.

Mr. Love remembered his great-grandmother, Faithy, who was known throughout the community as "Aunt Pinky." She was "a slight old lady with pleasing manners," and up to the time of her death, at 82, she had owned and operated the family plantation.

On the day of her death after a brief illness, in 1882, the four Wells brothers (Mark, Wylie, Billy, and Gabe), accomplished millwrights and neighbors, were called in and fashioned her coffin.<sup>37</sup>

D. The Years of Tenants and Absentee Ownership,  
1884-1938

1. The Howell Years

Lawson Howell, a son of Harriet Howser Howell and a grandson of Henry and Faithy Howser, acquired the stone house and 60 acres of the Home Place at the sale of his grandmother's real estate in January 1884. Before the year was over, Howell had added to his Kings Creek property by purchase of two tracts aggregating 63 acres, from the heirs of his Aunt, Jane Howser Goforth. He also acquired Lot 3 (177 acres) of his grandmother's place from M. R. Wells.

Howell, a Kings Mountain, North Carolina, merchant, was an absentee landlord. The Kings Creek property, now known as the Faithy Howser plantation, was rented to a succession of tenants. Among these were Monroe Hardin, W. Ross Hambright, and Robert Moore. The Monroe Hardins were renting the property on August 24, 1887, when their daughter, Mayme, was born in the stone house.<sup>38</sup> William A. Hambright, a son of W. Ross, recalled that his father rented the plantation from the Howells

---

37. Elizabeth Reed, "Howser Home Built in 1803," Rock Hill Evening Herald, June 9, 1949.

38. Ltr., Mrs. M. Blanton Robbins to M. Adlerstein, Nov. 6, 1973.

in 1899, the year before he was married. W. Ross Hambright "batched" in the stone house and farmed the land.<sup>39</sup>

The Robert Moores rented the plantation from the Howells sometime between 1910-1915. While they were tenants, a photograph was taken of the family in front of the house. This is the second earliest known photograph of the Howser House, and a copy is found in this report.<sup>40</sup>

On the death of Lawson Howell in September 1911, the Faithy Howser plantation was inherited by his sons, Aaron and J. Grigg. Like their father, they at first rented their farm. In 1915 Grigg Howell moved onto the farm. He and his family lived in the stone house for the next four years. (See Appendix P for descriptions of the house as recalled by Mrs. James Jackson, a daughter of Grigg Howell, and William W. Howell, a son of Aaron Howell. Mr. Howell has in his possession the earliest known photograph of the Howser House, ca. 1890, a copy of which he has generously made available for inclusion in this report.) On December 20, 1918, Aaron and Grigg Howell sold the property to J. F. Jenkins of Gaffney, South Carolina.

## 2. The Jenkins Years

Jenkins was an absentee landlord. Unlike the Howells, he owned several other plantations, including the Dillingham place, which bordered the Faithy Howser plantation on the south. It is recalled by old-timers that Jenkins owned all the land from the battleground to Grover. Different tenants lived on Jenkins's farms. In 1919 and throughout much of the 1920s, the Tom Morrisises farmed the Rock House place, as the Faithy Howser plantation was now known.<sup>41</sup>

## 3. The Bank Years

Jenkins borrowed heavily from the banks to finance his farming operations, putting up as collateral several of his farms. Enmeshed in the agricultural depression which gripped rural America in the mid-1920s, Jenkins, unable to meet his obligations to the banks, lost the Rock House and Dillingham farms, along with one other.

---

39. Personal interview, W. A. Hambright with E. Bearss, Nov. 14, 1973.

40. Personal interview, Joe P. Wilson with E. Bearss, Dec. 4, 1973. Mr. Wilson's address is Route 7, Shelby, N.C.

41. Personal interviews, Mesdames Julia Norman and Hood Watterson with J. Anderson and E. Bearss, Oct. 13, 1973.

The Merchant & Planters Bank of Gaffney engaged a tenant to live on and operate the Rock House farm. In 1934, when the United States took an option to purchase the farm, the tenant was Jim Norman.



#### IV. THE HOWSER HOUSE AND THE NPS

##### A. Historian Young Finds the House "Unique"

In the mid-1930s, the Federal Government, making use of Public Works funds available for development of Kings Mountain Recreation Demonstration Area, began acquiring lands for inclusion in the Kings Mountain National Military Park. Among the tracts on which options were acquired were the 401 acres owned by the Merchants & Planters National Bank of Gaffney. Located on this tract, designated No. 17, was the Howser House. Although an option had been taken on Tract 17, many months would pass before the transaction was consummated.

During these months, while land was being purchased and the Kings Mountain Recreation Demonstration Area developed by the Civilian Conservation Corps, National Park Service technicians visited the area to make certain that the historic and natural resources were being protected. A frequent visitor was Junior Historian Roger Young. Among his duties were preparation of a series of excellent resource studies, compilation of a Kings Mountain bibliography, and location of documents that would be useful to the Service in future development and interpretation of Kings Mountain National Military Park.<sup>1</sup>

Junior Historian Young, during the course of his work in February 1936, submitted a report describing the physical condition of the "Old Stone House." Mr. Young found the structure "unique," not only from "the fact that it was the sole building of its type in the entire King's Mountain region, but also due to its unusual construction features." He described the stone portion of the house as built as a "sturdy and solid two-story structure, practically in the form of a square, its outside dimensions being approximately 32-1/2 by 27-1/2 feet."

---

1. Ltr., S. Nash to G. H. Earp, Sept. 11, 1936, files KMNMP. Shepard Nash was an attorney working for the government in its Kings Mountain land acquisition program.



The walls of the structure rested upon a shale foundation, and were built from blocks of "crudely cut native grey granite and a durable brownish sandstone." The blocks, which ranged in size from "about 5 by 2 feet to 5 by 7 inches," were usually about six inches thick, and laid "irregularly but true in several courses, forming a wall" about 2-1/2 feet thick. All the stonework, Historian Young observed, was laid in clay, rather than mortar. The four stone walls rose about 21-1/4 feet from the ground level to the eaves, while on the gable ends the walls were about 33-1/4 feet in height from ground level to roof peak. Two stone chimneys, on the gable ends, were incorporated within the subject elevations, and did not "extend beyond their regular alignment, as is the usual construction practice with the stone chimneys attached to the frame structures in the region." These rather large chimneys rested on bases about 4 by 14 feet, and rose to a height of 38 feet from base to top. The tops of the chimneys were about 4-foot square. Mr. Young saw that the walls of the "Old Stone House" presented "a rather pleasing weathered appearance," being "brownish or tan in color, although the grey granite blocks irregularly laid in the walls produce an interestingly variegated effect."<sup>2</sup>

The roof, Mr. Young observed, was rather steep and V-shaped. It was covered with sheet metal, which he assumed had replaced the original fabric, which was probably "home cut pine or oak shakes."

Attached to the rear of the stone part of the house was a "sorry wooden kitchen and back porch," of a comparatively recent date.

The stone section of the house contained six rooms, one large and two small on each floor. A "plain stairway" gave access from the first to the second story "through a perfectly open stair-well." The walls of the rooms on both floors were plastered with native clay, which had been "covered with many successive coats of whitewash." The rooms were ceiled "with

---

2. Rogers W. Young, "A Brief Description of the 'Old Stone House,' Located within the Proposed Area of the Kings Mountain National Military Park, South Carolina," pp. 1-2, files KMNMP.

one-foot, hand hewn pine boards, and the walls" were finished with 3-inch chair rails and 7-inch baseboards of the same material. Handrails to the stairway were walnut. The fireplace openings throughout the house were small, except in the large first-floor room, where the opening was about 5 feet square. Mr. Young described the mantels remaining in the house as "undecorated wood."<sup>3</sup>

Historian Young found the woodwork throughout the house "amazingly durable," much of it still "intact, although some of the heavy timbers of the floors" were beginning to deteriorate. Various kinds of native timber had been used in construction of the house. First-floor joists were oak and ranged from 1 foot 6 inches to 1 foot 9 inches. The flooring of the first floor was 8-inch, hand hewn plank. Both structural timbers and flooring of the second story were pine, and of slightly smaller dimensions than similar first-floor features.

Framing of the outside doors and windows, along with the window sashes, was walnut. In the stone part of the house there were two outside doors, a front and rear, both about 3 feet 10 inches by 8 feet 4 inches. There were ten windows in the rock portion of the house, five each in the front and rear elevations, but none in the gable ends. Four of the windows were on the first floor and the remainder on the second. Those on the lower floor were about 2 feet 11 inches by 5 feet 2 inches, while those on the upper story were slightly smaller. Each window had two six-paned sashes. Over each outside door and the windows were granite lintels.<sup>4</sup>

There was a small cellar under the southwest corner of the stone section of the house. The excavation was 15 by 23 feet, and 10 feet deep. This basement had damp earthen floors and walls, and two ventilators of about 2 by 4 feet under the front and rear walls of the house. Entry to the cellar was from the side yard, the entryway located in the base of the west wall. The entrance consisted of "two low slanting rock side walls, two stone steps, and a wooden door covering a four-foot opening."

---

3. Ibid., p. 2.

4. Ibid.

Historian Young found no front porch. An irregular flight of stone steps led "to a flimsy wooden front door," which was obviously not the original. Over the front doorway was a "massive granite lintel," upon which was inscribed:

Henry Howser - "Stone Mason"  
\*Jane Howser 1803.<sup>5</sup>

Several hundred yards east of the Howser House, Historian Young pinpointed and examined the family cemetery. He identified on the knoll 15 to 20 graves, "several dating back to a period shortly after the erection of the stone dwelling." Several of the epitaphs interested Young, and he quoted from them in his report.<sup>6</sup>

## B. Regional Director Russell Acts

### 1. Superintendent Camp's December 1937 Inspection

Although Historian Young had pronounced the Howser House as "unique," the National Park Service could not initiate any measures for its protection and preservation during the next 21 months. It was not until January 20, 1938, that all papers were signed and approved and title to Tract 17, which included the Howser House, was vested in the United States. This, however, should not have prevented personnel of the Kings Mountain Recreation Demonstration Area from taking action to protect the structure, because the United States had held an option on the property since September 1934.

Project Superintendent Fore, on inspecting the area in late October 1937, observed evidence of vandalism. A number of trees had been felled, but more important, the Howser House had been broken into. Fore wrote Coordinating Superintendent B. Floyd Flickinger that the vandals had torn up the hearths in a futile search for gold reportedly hidden many years before by Henry Howser.<sup>7</sup>

---

5. Ibid., pp. 2-3.

6. Ibid., p. 3.

7. Ltr., Fore to B. F. Flickinger, Oct. 28, 1937, files KMNMP. B. Floyd Flickinger, headquartered at Colonial National Historical Park, was coordinating superintendent for a number of Park Service areas in Region I of the National Park Service.

In late autumn of 1937, Oswald E. Camp was transferred by the National Park Service from Statue of Liberty NM to Kings Mountain National Military Park, as the area's first superintendent. Mr. Camp was charged with working out a comprehensive plan for development of the greatly expanded park.

Soon after his arrival in South Carolina, Superintendent Camp, on the morning of December 6, made an inspection of his new area. He was accompanied by Project Superintendent Fore. Among the sites visited was the "Old Stone House."

Camp pronounced the structure in "bad condition, nearly ready to collapse." The door jambs and stair railing were badly weathered. While the latter might be salvaged, Camp doubted whether the door jambs could be saved. More important, the masonry "seemed to have been mud, merely faced with mortar." The eastern gable wall, Camp observed, had apparently buckled in "the center rather in the shape of a circular blister," and was "partly pulled away from the other wall." This was evident on the "outside of the wall, and, also in the shape of a jagged crack, on the inside."

Unless this wall was pulled back into shape by use of turnbuckles, and ribbed bars on the outside, Camp despaired of preserving the structure. He admitted, in his report to Flickinger, that if this method of preservation were adopted, the house's appearance would not be pleasing. But, he continued, because of the mud joints, he did not believe the building could be stabilized in any other way.

He urged that a service engineer be sent to Kings Mountain to give his evaluation, before any plan for preservation of the Howser House was adopted.

It might be necessary, he cautioned, to program "a complete reconstruction," if the building were to be saved.<sup>8</sup>

After studying Camp's report, Superintendent Flickinger forwarded it on December 8 to the Director of Region I, Dr. Carl Russell. In a cover letter, Flickinger urged immediate action to preserve the Howser House, and requested that "proper

---

8. Ltr., O. Camp to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 6, 1937, files KMNMP.

technical assistance be given Superintendent Camp."<sup>9</sup>

## 2. The Regional Office's Response

Dr. Russell, on December 11, made a decision to have the structure repaired. Writing Superintendent Flickinger, Director Russell assured him, we will "investigate the stability of the building at the earliest opportunity and will make a positive recommendation."<sup>10</sup>

He wrote Superintendent Camp on the same day, advising that the old "Stone House" was to be "repaired and shored to prevent its rapid deterioration." Regional architects and engineers had been alerted to inspect the house at their first opportunity. Meanwhile, the regional office desired a report and photographs. Perhaps, Regional Director Russell observed, you can "arrange with Superintendent Clarkson and Mr. Earp to have architectural foreman Croxton inspect the building and make a report regarding its condition."<sup>11</sup>

Camp proceeded as instructed. Architectural Foreman Croxton of the Recreational Demonstration Project inspected the Howser House and took a number of photographs, which Camp forwarded to the regional office.<sup>12</sup> Croxton took sick, however, and failed to submit a report to accompany his photographs.<sup>13</sup>

---

9. Ltr., B. F. Flickinger to Regional Director, Dec. 8, 1937, files KMNMP.

10. Ltr., C. Russell to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 11, 1937, files KMNMP.

11. Ltr., C. Russell to O. Camp, Dec. 11, 1937, files KMNMP. Mr. Clarkson was project superintendent and G. H. Earp, a nephew of Wyatt Earp, was project manager in charge of land acquisition.

12. Ltr., O. Camp to Regional Director, Dec. 17, 1937, files KMNMP.

13. Superintendent's Monthly Report for Dec. 1937, files KMNMP.



## C. The Howser House is Linked with a "Colonial Village"

### 1. Camp Makes a Proposal

The fate of the Howser House now became entangled with the Hawthorn House, a frame and log structure. The home of Col. James Hawthorn, a veteran of the Kings Mountain battle, that structure was threatened with destruction by the impoundment area to be formed by construction of the Duke Power Company's Lake Wylie dam on the Catawba River. The York Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was naturally interested in preservation of the Hawthorn House and contacted officials of Duke Power Company and Superintendent Camp. The power company would give the ladies of the DAR the Hawthorn House, provided they relocated it outside the impoundment area. Superintendent Camp was agreeable to its relocation in Kings Mountain National Military Park, provided he could secure the approval of his superiors.

On December 16, 1937, Superintendent Camp wrote Coordinating Superintendent Flickinger, suggesting that consideration be given by the Service to acquisition of the Hawthorn House. Upon acquisition it would be dismantled, moved to Kings Mountain, and rebuilt. Next, the Service should investigate the possibility of acquiring the house at Sharon reportedly used by Lord Cornwallis as his headquarters at the time of the battle of Cowpens. The Service should then institute a study of other area houses and objects that might be acquired and relocated at Kings Mountain.

If the Service acquired a number of historic structures and objects, Camp proposed that "their placement . . . not be made in a haphazard manner, and without due consideration." He urged that a site for a "Restored Colonial Village be studied." The structures, including the "old stone house," would be positioned along a "straggling road." The road to be "grassed; allowed to grow up in weeds and native wildflowers; rutted; single dirt path straggling along each side." There would be a well, with sweep. If the "Colonial Village" were well located, Camp wrote, "it would lend considerable atmosphere."

Becoming carried away with his scheme, Camp dreamed of erecting a log blockhouse.

The village road would be closed to vehicular traffic by posts, but it would be accessible from nearby parking areas. Signs would be erected for each structure, detailing its history.

Buildings were to be refurnished with such original objects and reproductions as could be "contrived by the implements of common farm labor and other general uses." Originals were to be labelled.

Camp urged that the "old stone house" be refurnished to become headquarters and a residence for protection personnel. A ranger, whose principal duties would be interpretation, could be quartered in one of the other houses.

Superintendent Camp was not prepared to suggest a site for his "Colonial Village," but he was ready to pursue the subject. He suggested that it be within walking distance of the battleground, but screened therefrom.<sup>14</sup>

## 2. Washington Vetoes the Hawthorn House Proposal

Acting Director of the National Park Service, A. E. Demaray, on December 20, gave an indication of how Camp's proposal would fare when it reached the Washington level. On that day Demaray wrote Coordinating Superintendent Flickinger that, after careful consideration, he was disapproving the proposal for the Service to accept the Hawthorn House and to "re-erect it somewhere in the Park." It was Service policy, he reminded Flickinger, to oppose removal of historic structures from their original sites.<sup>15</sup>

## 3. Flickinger Argues for a Modification of Policy

Flickinger, on December 23, appealed to Regional Director Russell to see if he could prevail on Acting Director Demaray to change his mind. Flickinger argued that in respect to the Hawthorn House, there were extenuating circumstances, calling for a modification of policy. The structure, the home of a participant in the battle of Kings Mountain, stood on land

---

14. Ltr., O. Camp to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 16, 1937, files KMNMP.

15. Ltr., A. E. Demaray to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 20, 1937, files KMNMP.



owned by the Duke Power Company, and unless relocated by the Service or similar agency, it was to be demolished. There being very few "pioneer structures" in the region, Flickinger argued that the Service should, in this case, modify its policy and "accept this structure in order to preserve it."

A major problem, he admitted, would be selection of a site for its relocation. He was in agreement that no structure not on the scene in October 1780 should be intruded into the battleground area. But since the park would occupy more than 4,000 acres, it would be possible to re-erect the Hawthorn House in a section of the park where "it would not impinge on the historic scene."

Flickinger urged that the Hawthorn House be re-erected adjacent to the Howser House, "so that a visitor . . . would have an opportunity of seeing an eighteenth century pioneer's house and a more substantial stone house which was built after the region became secure and more prosperous." In closing, Flickinger pointed out that the Howser House site was not associated with the battle.<sup>16</sup>

#### 4. Camp Suggests that the Howser House be Rebuilt

With Foreman Croxton still on sick leave, Superintendent Camp, on January 12, 1938, forwarded to Flickinger four photographs of the Howser House taken by Croxton on his December 15 visit to the site.

In a cover letter, Camp reiterated his recommendation that, in view of the "mud joints and its present condition," the Howser House be taken down and rebuilt, "using cement mortar in the joints." He explained that the suggestion previously made of pulling the walls back into alignment with tie-rods and rub pieces would be "palliative" only, and displeasing to the eye.

In rebuilding the house, a new site might be selected. This, Camp wrote (not having been informed of Acting Director

---

16. Ltr., B. F. Flickinger to Regional Director, Dec. 23, 1937, files KMNMP.

Demaray's thoughts on the subject), could be near the re-erected Hawthorn House. This would be in accordance with his projected "Colonial Village."<sup>17</sup>

5. Flickinger Couples Preservation and Interpretation of the Howser and Hawthorn Houses

Flickinger answered Camp's letter on January 14. In view of the position taken by Mr. Demaray, Flickinger opposed "re-erection of the Howser House at a new site, although it might be necessary to dismantle the building and reassemble it on site to make it safe and sound."

Reductions in professional personnel, Flickinger informed Camp, made it impossible for the Service to assign at this time either an architect or engineer to the project. But he hoped that in the near future, Regional Director Russell would be able to "detach the necessary technical personnel to study the building."<sup>18</sup>

Later in the day, Flickinger wrote Camp a second letter. After reviewing contents of his earlier letter, Flickinger took up Camp's proposed "Colonial Village." He had delayed answering, because he had hoped to discuss the subject with Regional Director Russell, who had been absent from his Richmond office most of the time since receipt of Camp's December 16 memorandum on the subject. But in view of the position taken by Acting Director Demaray, Flickinger "was positive" the proposal would be disapproved.

Acceptance of the Hawthorn House had been disapproved, but both he and the regional office had appealed this decision and hoped it would be reconsidered by Washington. Camp was told of Flickinger's proposal to re-erect the Hawthorn House near the Howser House, where the two structures would be employed to interpret an eighteenth century pioneer residence and the early nineteenth century "substantial residence of native stone." With the exception of these two structures, Flickinger did not

---

17. Ltr., O. Camp to B. F. Flickinger, Jan. 12, 1938, files KMNMP.

18. Ltr., B. F. Flickinger to O. Camp, Jan. 14, 1938, files KMNMP.

think it "wise to inject any other buildings in the area," except those needed to operate the park.<sup>19</sup>

6. The Washington Office Squelches the  
"Colonial Village"

Superintendent Camp meanwhile had discussed details of his proposed "Colonial Village" in an address before the Kings Mountain Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in York. Unfortunately for Camp, the Yorkville Enquirer featured his address in its January 7 edition, copies of which reached both the regional office and Washington.

On January 18, Acting Associate Regional Director H. K. Roberts wrote Camp. According to the newspaper, Roberts observed, Camp had told of the "proposed removal and rebuilding of the old stone (Howser) house." He had also told of plans for "a straggling, old fashioned street of historic houses," and a restored "Colonial Village."

The regional office, Roberts chided, would appreciate a "detailed statement outlining" Camp's plans on this subject.<sup>20</sup>

Acting Director Demaray, on the same date, wrote a curt letter to Coordinating Superintendent Flickinger, calling attention to Camp's speech as quoted in the Yorkville Enquirer. If the newspaper account was accurate, it demonstrated that Superintendent Camp did not understand National Park Service policies. Flickinger was to "instruct" Camp as to these policies in regard to restorations and public contact.

As the Howser House was Service property, Camp was to be told that "no recommendation has been received here with regard to the removal and rebuilding the house." Neither had any recommendation been received as to establishment of a restored "Colonial Village" in Kings Mountain National Military Park. Such recommendations should be addressed to the

---

19. Ibid.

20. Ltr., H. K. Roberts to O. Camp, Jan. 18, 1938, files KMNMP.

Director's office. Moreover, in the future no public announcements were to be made regarding them, until approved on the Washington level.<sup>21</sup>

Superintendent Camp, embarrassed by the turn of events, replied to Acting Associate Director Roberts's letter on January 20. He did not recall mentioning the Howser or Hawthorn Houses in his talk to the DAR. On reviewing his notes, he found he had addressed his speech to "ways for publicizing the York area, and nothing in detail about the Park." This was deliberate on his part, because plans for development were not "yet in such condition of approved form that they should be made public."

He did not recall mentioning his proposed "Colonial Village" in his talk, although he had informally discussed it with individual members before the meeting was called to order. He had also reviewed it informally with the editor of the Yorkville Enquirer to secure his reaction.

The subject of the restored "Colonial Village," Camp explained to his Richmond superiors, had been outlined in his memorandum of December 16, 1937, to Coordinating Superintendent Flickinger.<sup>22</sup>

On January 25, Coordinating Superintendent Flickinger wrote Camp that "in view of the present uncertain stage of development of Kings Mountain," it was deemed unwise to make statements as to future planning. Camp was urged to spend the next six months studying local conditions and politics. If all went according to schedule, Flickinger hoped to visit Kings Mountain within the next month and review in detail the Service's plans for the area.<sup>23</sup>

---

21. Ltr., A. E. Demaray to B. F. Flickinger, Jan. 18, 1938, files KMNMP.

22. Ltr., O. Camp to H. K. Roberts, Jan. 20, 1938, files KMNMP.

23. Ltr., B. F. Flickinger to O. Camp, Jan. 25, 1938, files KMNMP.

Stung by the Service's rejection of his proposal for a restored "Colonial Village," Superintendent Camp lost interest momentarily in preservation of the Howser House. In July 1938, to afford safety to the public, Camp had the CCC boys barricade the road leading to the structure.<sup>24</sup>

D. NPS Professionals Determine to Preserve the  
Howser House

1. Regional Architect Bullock's Inspection and  
Evaluation of the Howser House

In the winter of 1938-39, a number of members of the South and North Carolina congressional delegations, goaded by descendants and local interest groups to restore the frame and log McElwee House, contacted National Park Service officials. The McElwee House, a pioneer structure, was on Clarks Fork in the Demonstration Area, adjoining Kings Mountain National Military Park. The Service therefore, in mid-February, sent Region I Architect O. M. Bullock, Jr., to make a field study of the McElwee and Howser houses. Bullock was somewhat familiar with the area, as he had made a study of the Hawthorn House the previous year. Of the three, he reported on his return to Richmond, only the Howser House had any "outstanding architectural merit or importance." The other two were "not of sufficient intrinsic architectural value to warrant restoration."

On inspecting the Howser House, Bullock found that it would cost about \$6,000 to restore the building, and to add a kitchen, bath, heating plant, and outside utilities which would enable it to be used as a park residence. Cost of repairs to preserve the structure were placed at \$3,000.

His inspection of the house disclosed that it had a half basement, accessible only from the outside. The first floor consisted of a large room to which the front and rear doors gave access and from which a stairway ascended to the second story. Two smaller rooms opened directly into the large room. Finished woodwork consisted of mantels, doors, door and window trim, chair rails, and cornice. The ceiling was of wood,

---

<sup>24</sup>. Superintendent's Monthly Report for July 1938, files KMNMP.



while the exterior walls were plastered. All woodwork was in good condition, and some of the original hardware, including "HL hinges," was still in place.

The second-floor plan was similar to that for the first, three rooms directly over those below. The stairs were in an open well, which was once protected by a handrail. As on the first floor there was a fireplace in each room.

Roof framing was original, but the cornice and roof covering must be replaced.

The stone outside walls rested on a ledge rock, but as they were laid in mud pointed with lime mortar, there had been considerable settling. To prevent further movement, Bullock recommended that they be "tied."

A frame wing had been added to the rear of the rock house, but it was in such poor condition that its repair was unwarranted.<sup>25</sup>

Bullock, on his return to the regional office, reported that the Howser House was "worthy of preservation because of its unusually good architectural character and its well preserved present condition." Minimum repairs should be undertaken at once "involving bracing and holding the walls, replacing the windows or battening the openings, to prevent further deterioration."

At the same time, Regional Architect Bullock reported the McElwee and Hawthorn houses were "not worthy of preservation."<sup>26</sup>

## 2. Regional Director Tillotson Orders the House Protected

After reviewing Bullock's report with his staff, Regional Director M. R. Tillotson recommended that the Howser House "be protected against further depredations by the elements and

---

25. Ltr., O. M. Bullock to Regional Landscape Architect, Mar. 2, 1939, NA, RG 79, Kings Mtn. Nat. Mil. Park.

26. Ibid.



vandals until such time as a suitable use for the House may be evolved," as it was of sufficient architectural significance to merit preservation. But, he continued, it "is not important enough to warrant restoration as a part of the historical story to be told at Kings Mountain."<sup>27</sup>

### 3. The February 1939 Planning Conference

#### a. Research Technician Lattimore's Visit and Report

Research Technician Ralston Lattimore had visited Kings Mountain National Military Park several weeks before Regional Architect Bullock. A historian, he looked at the Howser House differently than an architect.

On his return from Kings Mountain, Lattimore suggested to the Regional Director that if more than one ranger were assigned to the area, it might be of advantage to have him reside in the northern sector of the park. It was recommended that his quarters be on the site now occupied by the Howser House. This structure, Lattimore continued, was abandoned and in a "dangerous stage of dilapidation." The Howser House, Lattimore had been told, had no "historic significance and is not of architectural importance." When razed, some of the woodwork could be salvaged for use in construction of the Superintendent's residence.<sup>28</sup>

#### b. The Multi-Discipline Conference Makes a Recommendation

In mid-February 1939, a blue ribbon conference was held at Kings Mountain to discuss problems relating to future development of the area, among which was disposition of the Howser House.<sup>29</sup> When the group studied the Howser House, it was found,

---

27. Ltr., M. R. Tillotson to the Director, NPS, Mar. 29, 1939, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

28. Ltr., R. Lattimore to Regional Director, Region I, Jan. 23, 1939, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

29. Among those in attendance were Superintendent Camp,

contrary to previously expressed views of Superintendent Camp and Technician Lattimore, to be in "good condition as far as the stone work is concerned." The interior, however, was "deteriorating very rapidly and already is in an extremely sad condition." The group agreed that it was undoubtedly one of the first, if not the first, all stone structure in the neighborhood. As it might have architectural and cultural values sufficient to warrant its preservation, it was recommended that steps be taken "to put the building in repair, stabilize it, and eventually to use it in some way by personnel" of Kings Mountain National Military Park.<sup>30</sup>

Superintendent Camp, however, disagreed with the statement in Historian Roy Appleman's report that "It appears still to be in good condition so far as the stone work is concerned."

He informed the Regional Director that the stone was laid up in mud, and although it had stood for "about 140 years is no guarantee it will continue to stand." Camp, although neither an architect nor engineer, had seen and heard nothing to cause him to change his opinion that the Howser House "should be torn down and rebuilt with cement plaster joints, or razed completely." He considered it, in its present condition, a source of great danger.<sup>31</sup>

Landscape Architect K. B. Simmons, on February 20, 1939, filed his report of the meeting. He agreed with Mr. Lattimore that "if several rangers are provided for the park it would be advantageous to have one of them reside in the northern sector

---

Project Manager G. H. Earp, Regional Engineer L. M. Gray, Regional Architect O. M. Bullock, Landscape Architect K. B. Simmons, Assistant Forester I. H. Smalley, Assistant Research Technician Ralston B. Lattimore, and Regional Supervisor of Historic Sites Roy E. Appleman.

30. Ltr., R. E. Appleman to Regional Director, Region I, Mar. 16, 1939, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

31. Ltr., O. Camp to Regional Director, Region I, Mar. 20, 1939, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

of the park, perhaps in the vicinity of the Howser House." He, however, could not agree with Camp and Lattimore that the structure was of no architectural or historical significance. It was his opinion that it was "of definite historic significance and of decided architectural importance." He agreed with the majority of those attending the conference that it be "preserved for park use, perhaps as a ranger's residence."<sup>32</sup>

Although National Park Service professionals agreed that the Howser House possessed architectural merit and should be preserved and its interior adapted to a compatible usage, no money was available to fund this project, which Architect Bullock had estimated would cost \$6,000.

#### E. The NPS Decides to Preserve the Structure

##### 1. Associate Director Tolson Acts

By the winter of 1940-41, sufficient pressure had been generated by persons interested in preservation and relocation of the Hawthorn House to get the National Park Service to change its position. Preliminary plans called for its re-erection near the Howser House.

On February 6, 1941, Superintendent Camp expressed opposition to this proposal because the Howser House was built of stone laid in mud joints, only the faces of which were plastered. This plaster was "now largely gone," and there was a large bulge in the gable end of the structure, indicating weakness. Consequently, Camp considered the Howser House unsafe for visitors without extensive repairs. Because of stories of buried gold, treasure hunters had wrecked the interior. It had been his "continued recommendation" that the Howser House either "receive extensive repairs, or be torn down as a menace." He saw no reason to change these recommendations.<sup>33</sup>

---

32. Ltr., K. B. Simmons to Regional Director, Region I, Feb. 20, 1939, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

33. Ltr., O. Camp to Regional Director, Region I, Feb. 6, 1941, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

Regional Architect Bullock, in reiterating his opposition to the Service acquiring the Hawthorn House, once again called his superiors' attention to the Howser House, a structure of "great architectural interest and significance . . . , the preservation of which has been sadly neglected in the last three years and for which no plans for interpretation, development, or use have yet been made."<sup>34</sup>

The Camp-Bullock correspondence triggered a sharp reaction on the part of strong-willed Acting Associate Director Hillory Tolson. Writing the Region I Director on May 19, 1941, Mr. Tolson, in vetoing the Region's decision to accept the Hawthorn House, called attention to the need to stabilize and restore the Howser House. He cited "our duty to insure the proper preservation" of the Howser House, "before engaging in an expensive project designed to remove and restore a building of uncertain historical importance."<sup>35</sup>

## 2. Belated Measures are Taken to Protect the House

Superintendent Camp, having seen a copy of Architect Bullock's April 2 memorandum to the Regional Chief of Planning, asked the regional office for approval of an expenditure to board up the doors and windows of the Howser House. These measures were needed to control ingress and egress to the structure by vandals who had wrecked the interior. Materials (10 pounds of nails, a pair of hinges, and a lock and hasp) and labor for this project were estimated by Superintendent Camp at \$20.82.

In his request for this allotment, Camp failed to explain why he had failed to take action to control a situation that had been apparent since his arrival at Kings Mountain 40 months before.<sup>36</sup>

---

34. Ltr., O. M. Bullock to Regional Chief of Planning, April 2, 1941, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

35. Ltr., H. Tolson to Regional Director, Region I, May 19, 1941, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

36. One of Camp's contemporaries referred to him as an old "fuddie-duddie," whom the Service had inherited from the

On April 6, 1941, expenditure of this sum for protection of the house was approved in the Richmond office.<sup>37</sup>

The doors and windows of the Howser House were accordingly "barricaded" in the first week of June.<sup>38</sup> But this was like closing "the gate after the cow had got out." In the five years since Rogers Young had made his inspection and report, vandals, because of dereliction on the part of Project Manager Fore and Superintendent Camp, had been permitted to wreck the interior of the handsome old house.

As a result of the Bullock memorandum and Associate Director Tolson's decision to stabilize and preserve the Howser House, Research Technician Lattimore spent June 25 at Kings Mountain inspecting measures taken by Superintendent Camp for protection of the structure. He found the door and window openings had been "securely closed with strong board shutters," making continued entrance by vandals difficult. At present, the house was not marked with a notice of its ownership by the government, and the grounds were grown up in weeds, "giving it an abandoned atmosphere."

To improve this situation and reduce future vandalism, Lattimore suggested to Camp that either he or a member of his staff make a daily inspection of the site. Notices of National Park ownership should be "bolted" to the front and rear door shutters. The grass and weeds surrounding the

---

War Department in 1933. A review of Camp's actions in respect to the Howser House and other park development projects bears out this evaluation. Camp, however, was proficient at cultivating good local public relations in behalf of the Service at Kings Mountain National Military Park. Personal interview, Roy E. Appleman with E. Bearss, Oct. 25, 1973.

37. Ltr., A. P. Bursley to O. Camp, Apr. 6, 1941, files KMNMP. A. P. Bursley was Acting Assistant Regional Director for Region I.

38. Superintendent's Monthly Report for June 1941, files KMNMP.



structure should be mowed monthly during the summer, "as a neat appearance tends to check vandalism."<sup>39</sup>

### 3. Superintendent Camp Seeks to Use the Howser House as Park Quarters

Superintendent Camp, meantime, in view of Associate Director Tolson's decision, finally initiated correspondence to implement the recommendation of the February 1939 Kings Mountain Planning Conference that the Howser House be preserved and its interior adapted for a compatible usage. On June 14, 1941, he suggested to the regional office that consideration be given to "the complete repair of the Howser House, 1803, to be used as a residence on the Park for the Protection Ranger."

If this proposal were approved, an engineering and architectural study of the building would be required to "insure" its structural stability. Architectural drawings of the house, showing existing conditions, could be made by Mr. Croxton. Plans for use of the Howser House as a park residence must include a water supply and sewage system.<sup>40</sup>

The regional office, citing heavy commitments already assigned to CCC personnel attached to the park and the need to allot available funds to more urgently needed undertakings, advised that this was not the "time to initiate another major project at Kings Mountain."

Pending a decision as to final disposition of the Howser House, Superintendent Camp was directed to provide it with "maintenance and supervision necessary for its preservation." A failure on management's part to undertake these responsibilities, the regional office chided, had "already resulted in the loss, through vandalism, of the principal items of architectural interest."<sup>41</sup>

---

39. Ltr., R. Lattimore to Acting Regional Director, July 8, 1941, files KMNMP.

40. Ltr., O. Camp to Regional Director, Region I, June 14, 1941, files KMNMP.

41. Ltr., A. P. Bursley to O. Camp, June 26, 1941, files KMNMP. At this time the visitor center, the Superintendent's residence, and the park tour road were under construction.



In the late autumn of 1941, only weeks before his transfer to Moores Creek National Military Park, Superintendent Camp requested of the new Regional Director, Tom Allen, authority to permit the park janitor to temporarily occupy the Howser House. Before moving in, the janitor, who was a "good craftsman," would repair the fireplaces and undertake "other minor repairs to make the residence habitable."

Regional Director Allen, as to be expected on December 13, six days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, rejected Camp's request. As the Howser House was a "historic structure," Director Allen vetoed Camp's request for authority to have his janitor repair the fireplaces and make "other minor repairs to make the residence habitable." It was believed in the regional office that "to permit repairs by an unqualified agent might result in serious damage to its architectural character."

Camp would continue to see that the structure was provided "with such maintenance and supervision as is necessary for its preservation." Lack of supervision, Regional Director Allen complained, had "already resulted in the loss through vandalism of many of the principal items of architectural interest."<sup>42</sup>

#### 4. Camp Requests Authority to Raze the Barns

On September 10, 1941, Superintendent Camp asked the Regional Director for authority to demolish "the two old barns on the opposite side of the road from the Howser House." One of these was a log barn built by the Howsers in the early nineteenth century, and the other a frame structure built by Tom Morris. Such action, he pointed out, would be of great advantage to the site, because these "sagging" structures were an eyesore.

Materials from the barns, Camp continued, had no salvage value beyond use as firewood during the coming winter by the CCC guide force at the Battlefield Ridge Contact Station.

---

42. Ltr., T. Allen to O. Camp, Dec. 13, 1941, NA, RG 79, Kings Mt. Nat. Mil. Park.

The demolition project could be accomplished by the CCC "on time already approved for this Park."<sup>43</sup>

The regional office agreed that the "two barns" could be razed, but could not comprehend what Camp meant by his statement, "This work can be done by the CCC on time already approved." Personnel in Richmond were unable to identify an approved project that would fund demolition of these structures. Camp would, therefore, prepare for the Regional Director's approval a "job application" for this undertaking.

In any case, no labor was to be diverted to it "until more pressing items of road construction and construction of utilities for the Administrative Area" were completed.<sup>44</sup>

Because of the bureaucratic roadblocks raised by the regional office, the barns were to remain standing for eight more years.

#### 5. The Howser House is Entered on HABS

The Historic American Buildings Survey had become interested in the Howser House. Satisfied that it possessed architectural significance, HABS architects, in Fiscal Year 1941, prepared seven sheets of measured drawings of the old stone house. These drawings, like others prepared by the Survey, were placed on file at the Library of Congress.<sup>45</sup>

---

43. Ltr., O. Camp to Regional Director, Sept. 10, 1941, files KMNMP.

44. Ltr., E. M. Lisle to O. Camp, Sept. 25, 1941, files KMNMP. E. M. Lisle was the longtime Assistant Regional Director of Region I (Southeast Region), NPS.

45. Ltr., S. Lapham to O. Camp, July 10, 1941, files KMNMP. Samuel Lapham was district officer for South Carolina and reviewed the work carried out under the HABS program throughout the state.

## F. Policy Fluctuates as the Structure Deteriorates

### 1. A Decade of Continued Deterioration

In December 1941 the United States went to war. The CCC camps were soon phased out, as the nation mobilized its forces to battle the Axis. Appropriations for non-defense spending were pared. Reductions in park staffing were effected, and during the next four years no attention was paid the Howser House.

James B. Felton, who in January 1942 had replaced Camp as superintendent of Kings Mountain National Military Park, made his first mention of the Howser House in his monthly report for March 1945. At that time, he reported that the doors and windows of the old stone house were "gone over and boarded up more securely."<sup>46</sup>

The immediate postwar years saw no improvement in the treatment accorded the Howser House by the National Park Service. Appropriations for the Service were limited, and no money was available for restoration of historic structures. Available funds were allotted to maintenance. In March 1949 Superintendent Felton had his maintenance force raze the old log barn at the Howser House, "long an eyesore and in ruins."<sup>47</sup>

---

46. Superintendent's Report for Mar. 1945, files KMNMP. Mr. Felton had been transferred from Fort Jefferson National Monument.

47. Superintendent's Report for Mar. 1949, files KMNMP. No mention was made of the removal of the frame structure (a crib) referred to by Superintendent Camp in Sept. 1941. According to John Stewart, who as one of the park maintenance men razed the log Howser barn, the crib's "tumbled down" remains were also removed at this time. Superintendent Felton apparently considered the crib so badly deteriorated that no mention was made of its demolition. Personal interview, John Stewart with E. Bearss, Nov. 10, 1973.

Superintendent Felton, in November 1949, had his maintenance people cut and remove "a considerable amount of bushes, weeds, and debris from around the old stone house." This action, he reported, reduced the fire hazard and improved the area's appearance.<sup>48</sup> In June 1950 the maintenance force again mowed and brushed the Howser House grounds.<sup>49</sup> In regard to cleaning up the grounds, it should be pointed out that the instructions for the Superintendent to have the grounds mowed monthly during the summer had never been rescinded.

## 2. The Service Determines to Let the House Meld

Kings Mountain National Military Park got a new Superintendent in July 1951. Ben Moomaw, a native Virginian and a veteran geologist and ranger who had served in such diverse areas as Colonial National Historical Park and Hawaii Volcanoes, was transferred from Blue Ridge Parkway as Felton's replacement. Region I at this time got a new Director when Elbert Cox, a respected historian and able administrator, replaced Tom Allen in the Richmond office.

Funds appropriated by Congress for the National Park Service had been recently cut back by economies necessitated by the Korean Conflict. There was little money available for stabilization and restoration of historic structures. The program for Fiscal Year 1953, however, included \$2,200 for stabilization of the Howser House. It was at this time that Regional Director Cox chose to visit Kings Mountain. Cox spent two days, April 14-15, 1952, with his new superintendent. On visiting the Howser House, Director Cox saw that the \$2,200 constituted about ten percent of the amount needed to undertake the project. In view of the bleak outlook in regard to further funding for restoration of the structure, Cox told Superintendent Moomaw to "Let it meld." The \$2,200 allotment was then withdrawn. Director Cox thus gave substance to a policy the Park Service had been, in effect, following since it had acquired the house as part of the Merchants & Planters Bank Tract 17 in January 1938.

---

48. Superintendent's Report for Nov. 1949, files KMNMP.

49. Superintendent's Report for June 1950, files KMNMP.

From April 1952 until the spring of 1973, Superintendent Moomaw followed Director Cox's directive and "did not pour good money, after bad."<sup>50</sup>

On April 23, 1952, one week after Director Cox's visit to the area, Superintendent Moomaw entered the Howser House on the Service's List of Classified Structures. The entry read:

Howser House (old stone house)

This two story stone house was built by Henry and Jane Howser in 1803, was acquired by the Federal Government after 1935 and at present is in very poor condition. Apparent age is its only claim for historic significance. There is still pending the question of its final use.<sup>51</sup>

3. The Service Takes a New Look at the House

In view of Director Cox's decision, no effort was made by the park staff or regional personnel to fund restoration of the Howser House as a Mission 66 Project. As the structure had marginal historic significance, for some unknown reason, they refused to agree that its admitted architectural and cultural significance warranted its preservation. For the next 21 years the Howser House was permitted to "meld."

The first persons to work toward preservation were Ranger George West and Historian Gene Cox of Kings Mountain National Military Park. Archeologist John Cotter of the Washington Service Center visited the area in March 1971 and was given a tour of the Howser House by West and Cox. At this time the park was developing the Howser House site as a part of its Environmental Study Area.

---

50. Superintendent's Report for Apr. 1952; Ltr., B. Moomaw to Regional Director, Region I, Apr. 2, 1973, files KMNMP; personal interview, Ben Moomaw with E. Bearss, Nov. 15, 1973.

51. Ltr., B. Moomaw to Regional Director, Region I, Apr. 23, 1952, files KMNMP.



In his trip report, Archeologist Cotter observed:

It is worth noting that the . . . Houser [sic] House and its property involves not only its own conservation, but that of related outbuildings and a private cemetery with at least 16 burials. Both house and cemetery are in a state of extreme neglect and the house constitutes a very present hazard to visitors, since its floors are rotted or absent and the inside is accessible through basement windows. It is to be regretted that this house, which was relatively intact in the 1930's when the Park Service took over, is now a complete ruin inside. Ideally, it should be refurbished and used for interpretation. Barring this, the exterior should at least be conserved and made safe for the present.<sup>52</sup>

In the first week of June 1971, a team started preparing a new master plan for Kings Mountain National Military Park. The team, having reviewed the Cotter report, visited the Howser House site. The group was appalled by the condition of the house and grounds, but was impressed by the possibility of using the area as a vehicle to expand the story to be told at Kings Mountain National Military Park to include the cultural, social, and economic history of the area from 1803 to 1935. They were cautioned, however, to guard against an undue emphasis on this theme, which might make the visitor forget that the area had been established to commemorate one of the decisive battles of the Revolution.

The master plan, as drafted, took cognizance of the Henry Howser House as "probably the most impressive human remains" in the area. A historic structure report was called for to "suggest the role of this building and its nearby cemetery in the interpretive and visitor-use programs." If the need arose, the planners wrote, the Howser House could be restored and refurbished, provided funds were made available.<sup>53</sup>

---

52. Ltr., J. Cotter to Chief, Office of History and Historic Architecture, undated, files, Historic Preservation-East.

53. "Master Plan - Kings Mountain National Military Park and State Park, South Carolina" (National Park Service, 1972),



#### 4. Director Thompson Reverses the Decision to Allow the Structure to Meld

Although a decision had been made to study the Howser House, it continued to "meld." This remained the situation until the late winter of 1972-73, when Historical Architect John Garner of the Southeast Region, at the request of Archeologist Jack Walker, spent February 12-13, 1973, at Kings Mountain. Garner's mission was to assess the architectural value of the Howser House for use in preparation of an environmental impact statement for the park's master plan.

Garner, on visiting the site, saw that Superintendent Moomaw had followed Regional Director Cox's verbal instructions to "let it meld." The house, he reported, had "not received the best of care." Upper-story windows were uncovered and the roof leaked. This had resulted in "severe wood rotting," principally in the northwest corner of the first floor. Garner saw that vandals had had access to the interior and had broken up "a considerable part of the interior woodwork."

Even so, he reported, these factors did not "diminish the following values," which made the house worthy of preservation:

(a) It met the criteria of the National Register of Historic Places in that it possessed "integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association."

(b) It embodied a "distinctive characteristic of a type, period, and method of construction."

(c) It was "recorded and certified" in 1941 by the Historic American Buildings Survey as of "exceptional historic or architectural interest" and "worthy of the most careful preservation."

---

p. 25. Elbert Cox had retired as regional director of the Southeast Region (Region I) in 1966. Dave Thompson had been director of the region since the winter of 1970-71. The master plan had not been approved as of Nov. 1973.

(d) It was a good example of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century "vernacular architecture of the Piedmont."

(e) "It was one of the few stonehouses of its period" surviving in the area.

(f) The date of its construction, 1803, was documented in the front doorway lintel.

(g) It had "survived in a relatively unaltered condition."

(h) Its "Physical" condition was "relatively sound," the most serious deterioration was "restricted" to the wooden fabric.

(i) Its significance to the area's human history sub-theme had been recognized by the 1971 master plan team.<sup>54</sup>

On returning to the regional office, Historical Architect Garner informed his superiors that the significance of the Howser House had been adequately recognized by the 1971 master plan team, which had called for a historic structure report, and "preservation work which could include total restoration." Funds had been programmed for the historic structure report in Fiscal Year 1974. And, he continued, this report would "likely conclude that the value" of the structure "is such that a program for its stabilization or restoration should be submitted."

It was therefore important that steps be inaugurated to immediately repair the roof of the Howser House, and to close the windows and doors to prevent further damage and deterioration. In addition, measures should be taken to identify and inventory "all unattached" fabric and place it in storage.<sup>55</sup>

---

54. Ltr., W. Garner to W. Hendrickson, Mar. 20, 1973, files KMNMP. William Hendrickson was Chief, Branch of Professional Services, Southeast Region.

55. Ibid.

After reviewing Garner's report and recommendations, Associate Director George Fry of the Southeast Region wrote Superintendent Moomaw. He had noted in Garner's report that the Howser House was "currently subject to unauthorized entry and to severe weather deterioration." Inasmuch as the Service would probably spend a considerable sum on the structure in the near future and any additional damage would "compound our financial obligations," Fry trusted that Superintendent Moomaw would "arrange as soon as possible to have all of the openings securely closed off and to have the roof repaired." If possible, he would also have the "loose architectural woodwork carefully collected, bundled up, and marked according to location where found and stored."<sup>56</sup>

Superintendent Moomaw was taken aback by Mr. Fry's memorandum. Writing Regional Director Thompson on April 2, he complained, "All this might make sense if the Howser House could be deemed 'Historic' on grounds other than age alone." He trusted that those "making the study will be realistic."<sup>57</sup>

Apparently, Superintendent Moomaw's reply upset Director Thompson. On April 18 he informed his superintendent that former Director Cox's 1952 decision to allow the Howser House to "meld into the forest is reversed."

Superintendent Moomaw would initiate steps to protect the structure and preserve the fabric as outlined in the Fry communication. If needed to carry out this work, Regional Director Thompson would make available the services of Historical Architect Garner.

Director Thompson explained to Superintendent Moomaw that "within this decade the Service has embraced a new and broadened scope of responsibility toward all historic structures." Recently this philosophy had been stated anew in President Richard M. Nixon's Executive Order 11593, which clearly

---

56. Ltr., G. Fry to B. Moomaw, Mar. 29, 1973, files KMNMP.

57. Ltr., B. Moomaw to D. Thompson, Apr. 2, 1973, files KMNMP.

charged the Service "to see that we are not responsible for the loss of significant elements of our national heritage."<sup>58</sup>

Superintendent Moomaw, as a capable and dedicated subordinate, did as directed. On April 25, 1973, he reported to Regional Director Thompson, "the security of the Howser House should be completed by close of business today. Some of the loose woodwork has been in storage for years."<sup>59</sup>

In mid-September 1973, Historical Architect Mike Adlerstein of the Denver Service Center reached Kings Mountain. Assisted by park maintenance personnel made available by Superintendent Moomaw, Adlerstein cleaned up the grounds. He then commenced his architectural investigation of the structure.

---

58. Ltr., D. Thompson to B. Moomaw, Apr. 18, 1973, files KMNMP.

59. Ltr., B. Moomaw to D. Thompson, Apr. 25, 1973, files KMNMP.

V. RECOLLECTIONS OF THE HOWSER HOUSE AND GROUNDS  
IN THE 1920s

A. Mrs. Julia Norman's Recollections

On Saturday, October 13, 1973, Mrs. Julia Morris Norman was interviewed at her home near Grover, North Carolina, by Historians Jim Anderson and E. C. Bearss. Mrs. Norman's parents (the Tom Morrises) lived in the Howser House from 1919 through most of the 1920s. Mrs. Norman, who married in 1919, resided one-half mile northeast of the Howser House in the Lottie Goforth dwelling.

Mrs. Norman recalled that her parents rented the Rock House property from J. F. Jenkins, a well-to-do Gaffney land-owner. She told us that until he went broke in the mid-1920s, Jenkins owned all the land between the battleground and Grover. Continuing, she told us that the Ray Shepherds resided there after her grandparents moved out.<sup>1</sup>

1. The Stone House

a. First Floor

The first floor of the stone house, Mrs. Norman recalled, was divided into three rooms. The big north room had doorways opening into the front yard and onto the back porch. There was a big fireplace on the north side of the room, and a stairway in the northwest corner leading to the second floor. Her parents used this room as their bedroom, and in the northeast corner was a big double bedstead.

There were two smaller rooms opening off the big room. The room in the southwest corner was her grandmother's bedroom, while the one in the southeast corner was for company. These rooms were heated by a fireplace in their south elevations.<sup>2</sup>

---

1. Personal interview, Mrs. Norman with J. Anderson and E. Bearss, Oct. 13, 1973.

2. Ibid.

## b. Second Floor

The floor plan was identical to that of the first story. In the northwest corner was the stairway, while against the north elevation of the big room was a fireplace. Mrs. Norman was unable to recall fireplaces in the two smaller south rooms.<sup>3</sup>

## 2. Frame Addition

Mrs. Norman told us that at the rear of the stone house was a single-story frame structure. Fronting the south elevation of the addition and extending for its full length was a porch. Access to the porch was through the rear doorway of the stone house, and via a flight of wooden steps centered within the addition's doorway. At the edge of the porch was a wood railing.

The addition, which had a pair of windows in its north elevation and a doorway in its south elevation, was used by the Morrisises as a combination kitchen and dining room. The kitchen was in the west end of the addition.<sup>4</sup>

## 3. Grounds

The Morrisises' privy was southwest of and down the hill from the frame addition. The well was in the front yard northeast of the stone house. Water obtained from the well was not used for drinking. Drinking water was carried from the spring in the hollow northwest of the house. The family garden was between the south elevation of the stone house and the road leading to the Kings Creek bridge.

Mrs. Norman recalled that the ground west, north, and south of the house had been terraced. Passing through the terrace and providing access to the county road was a walkway and steps.<sup>5</sup>

---

3. Ibid.

4. Ibid.

5. Ibid.



#### 4. Outbuildings and Lots

On the opposite side of the county road from the stone house, and several hundred yards to the north, was a frame tenant house.

Across the county road and east of the road to the Dillinghamses' were two structures. One was the large log barn in which Mr. Morris kept his horses. Overhead was a hayloft. West of the barn was a frame corn barn.

The Morrisises' hog lot was west of the road and about midway between the stone house and the Howser cemetery. In and around the barnyard were the family chickens and guineas.<sup>6</sup>

#### 5. Crops in the 1920s

During this period the bottoms were planted in corn and the hillside fields in cotton.<sup>7</sup>

#### B. Mrs. Watterson's Recollections

Mrs. Hood Watterson, a daughter of Mrs. Norman and a lifelong resident of the area, was also interviewed by Historians Anderson and Bearss on October 13, 1973. As a child, she had lived with her parents in the Lottie Goforth house and was in the habit of walking to and from her home to the stone house to visit her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Morris. She thus became familiar with the appearance of the stone house and its grounds during the late 1920s.<sup>8</sup>

##### 1. The Stone House

##### a. First Floor

Mrs. Watterson recalled three rooms. The north room was quite large, had a big fireplace in its north elevation, a

---

6. Ibid.; Photographs of these structures, taken in the 1930s, are found in the park's files in a report titled, "File No. 620, Buildings on Property Acquired for the Park."

7. Personal interview, Mrs. Norman with J. Anderson and E. Bearss, Oct. 13, 1973,

8. Personal interview, Mrs. Hood Watterson with J. Anderson and E. Bearss, Oct. 13, 1973.

stairway in the northwest corner, and doorways opening onto the front stone steps and back porch. The fireplace had a huge fireboard. Under the stairway, there was a built-in closet. Mrs. Watterson told us that her grandfather's and grandmother's big corded bed was in the northeast corner of this room.

The rooms in the southwest and southeast corners were entered from the big room. These rooms were heated by fireplaces. The southeast room was used for company, and the southwest room by her grandmother.<sup>9</sup>

#### b. Second Floor

The floor plan, with a big north room and two smaller rooms in the southeast and southwest corners, was identical to that of the first floor. Access to this floor was gained via the stairway in the northwest corner of the big room. In the north elevation of the big room was a large fireplace.

The small room in the southwest corner was a maiden aunt's bedroom. When visiting her grandparents, Mrs. Watterson slept with her aunt. The second-story fireplaces, it was recalled, were not used.

Her grandparents, Mrs. Watterson told us, had heavy furniture. All the beds in the house, she continued, were corded.<sup>10</sup>

#### 2. Frame Addition

The frame addition, attached to the west elevation of the stone house, was used by the Morrises as a combination kitchen and dining room. The range was in the northwest corner and the dining table near the east wall. Fronting the south elevation of the addition, for its full length, was a porch. Access to the kitchen-dining room was gained

---

9. Ibid.

10. Ibid.

through a single doorway opening onto the porch. The back door of the stone house opened onto the addition's porch. A flight of steps, centered in front of the kitchen doorway, also provided access to the porch. This addition, Mrs. Watterson recalled, was in "good condition."<sup>11</sup>

### 3. Basement

A basement, entered through a doorway in the south elevation, was under the southwest corner of the stone house. Mrs. Watterson recalled that it was dark in the basement, which was used by her grandfather to store apples during the winter.<sup>12</sup>

### 4. Grounds

There was a boxed-in well northeast of the stone house. It may have had a brick or rock casing. A path, north of the house, led from the kitchen to the well. Drinking water was secured from the spring in the hollow northwest of the house.

The family privy was down off the first terrace southwest of the frame addition.

The Morrises' garden was south of the house and between it and the county road. Tom Morris's apple orchard, which may have included a few peach trees, was north of the house and west of the county road.

The area north, west, and south of the house had been terraced. A walkway, with steps where it passed through the terrace, led from the back porch to the county road.<sup>13</sup>

### 5. Outbuildings

Across the road from the stone house and north of the Dillingham road was a large log horse barn. Between the

---

11. Ibid.

12. Ibid.

13. Ibid.

barn and county road was a frame corn barn. South of the Dillingham road were two frame structures--a cotton house and a cow barn. Mrs. Watterson believed that her grandfather may have built the frame structures.

Northeast of the stone house, on the road to the Lottie Goforth House, was a frame tenant house.<sup>14</sup>

A map, prepared by Mesdames Norman and Watterson, locating the outbuildings, is found in this report.

---

14. Ibid.; Photographs of these structures, none of which are extant, are found in the park files in the report titled, "File No. 620, Buildings on Property Acquired for the Park."

## VI. DOCUMENTARY DESCRIPTIONS OF THE STRUCTURES, 1803-1934

The documents disclose very little on the structural history of the Howser House and its outbuildings. Cut into the front doorway lintel is this data:

Henry Howser - "Stone Mason"  
\*Jane Howser 1803

This documents when the house was erected, although there are stories that it took as long as 40 years to build. A. Love, a great-great-grandson of Henry Howser I, in 1949, told Elizabeth Reed, who was preparing an article on the structure, that according to family stories it had taken six years to build the house. Stone had been quarried nearby. Formerly, he continued, "heavy stones also formed a walkway, a rock wall at the back of the house, and the preliminary construction of a spring house."

In the early days, Love told Miss Reed, a "kitchen stood apart from the house." The kitchen, along with all the outbuildings except the log barn, had disappeared, as neighbors from far and near "borrowed" the useful stone and timber for their own buildings.<sup>1</sup>

Plats prepared of the Howser and adjacent property in the period 1808-1827 locate a stone quarry on Long Mountain (Brushy Ridge), near the southeast boundary of the Home Place. Leading from the quarry to the Howser House site is a trace identified as "Howser Stone Road." Branching off the trace east of, and paralleling, Kings Creek is a lane leading to the house site.<sup>2</sup>

---

1. Elizabeth Reed, "Howser Home Built in 1803," Rock Hill Evening Herald, June 9, 1949.

2. York County Plat Book I, plat 196 (John B. Black's 1808 Survey), plat 174 (Henry Howser's 1807 Survey of 460 acres), plat 783 (Robert Clendinen's Survey of 1,000 acres), and plat 780 (Henry Howser II's Survey of 875 acres), York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

In January 1832, almost ten years after the death of his father, Henry Howser II purchased from the estate the Home Place, consisting of "five small tracts . . . in conjunction so as to compose one tract including the plantation and mansion House whereon Henry Howser, the testor formerly lived."<sup>3</sup> This is the first occasion that the two-story stone house is mentioned in a document.

Litigation following the death of Henry Howser II in August 1842, and accompanying the division of his estate, found the house mentioned in several documents and depicted on a plat. In apportioning the widow's share of her spouse's estate, the commissioners appointed by the Court of Equity found that the subject share could be "laid off to her without injury" to the other heirs. Her portion, they recommended, would include "the mansion house and improvements attached to the same."<sup>4</sup>

The plat surveyed by A. Hardin in June 1843 shows the 187 acres laid out to Faithy Howser on Kings Creek, "including the Mansion House and Improvement." The house is indicated by a large blob. Northwest of the house is a smaller blob, to the left and right oblique of the front elevation are smaller blobs, while across the road is a fourth blob. These blobs are presumed to be outbuildings. On Henry Howser's Mill Branch, 15 chains east of the mansion, is the still house.

The Hardin plat also locates fences, roads, and water-courses.<sup>5</sup>

We can assume that in the more than 40 years she lived in the house following the death of Henry, Faithy Howser found it increasingly difficult to maintain the structures.

---

3. York County Deed Book L, pp. 486-87, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

4. Court of Equity, Case No. 116, York County, Faithy Howser et al. v. Robison H. Howser et al., York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

5. Plat of the Widow Howser's Dower, Case 116, York County, Faithy Howser et al. v. Robison Howser et al., York County Courthouse, York, S.C.



During these years she saw her slaves emancipated and, following the deaths of her sons, Cyrus, David, and Robison, she had no assistance in management of the farm. In 1872 she sold 309 acres of the Home Place to her son Robison's widow, Mary Ellen Howser. While doing so, she reserved to herself a lifetime interest in the "dwelling now occupied by me together with the old buildings & garden and patches thereunto attached."<sup>6</sup> In effecting this conveyance, it is noted that the stone house is no longer referred to as a "mansion," and the dependency structures are now called "old buildings."

Faithy Howser soon reacquired title to the Home Place. When the 60-acre Home Place was purchased from the Faithy Howser estate in January 1884 by Lawson Howell, the "mansion" was for the first time referred to in a document as the "Rock House."<sup>7</sup>

As the subsequent owners (the Howells, Jenkinses, and the Merchants & Planters Bank) were generally absentee landlords, employing tenants to live on and farm the property, it is doubtful whether they made many improvements to the house. The Howells or one of their tenants made one improvement--the construction of a frame kitchen-dining room ell attached to the west elevation of the stone house. Other improvements were maintenance oriented.

The Howell and Wilson photographs, along with photographs made in the 1920s and 1930s by the Morrisises, Normans, and National Park Service personnel, document the appearance of the Howser House, log barn, and other outbuildings during the years since the 1890s.

---

6. York County Deed Book Y, p. 127, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

7. York County Mortgage Book LL, pp. 26-27, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.



## APPENDICES



Appendix A

"Last Will and Testament of Henry Howser I

State of South Carolina

York District

"In the name of God amen I Henry Howser late of the state and district aforesaid being in perfect senses and memory but low and weak in body and calling to Mind that all Men have once to die, and after Death and Judgement and of all such Estate as God hath been pleased to bless me with I Desire to be disposed in the following manner, viz:

"First I will and bequeath to my wife Christina Howser the following property--Her walnut chest & wearing apparel with her Bed and furniture and a four legged Walnut Table two cows and one Hundred Dollars cash.

"Second I will and bequeath to my son John Howser Two Hundred Dollars that I have paid him out of the estate.

"Thirdly I will and bequeath to my son Henry Howser two Hundred Dollars paid to him out of the estate.

"Fourthly, I will and bequeath to my son David Howser (the tract of land on Cain Creek, Rutherford County, N. C., purchased of John Patterson) one half of which divided according to value I will and bequeath to him at five Hundred Dollars value.

"Fifthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Jacob Sapoh Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

"Sixthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Henry Hanvae /Havener two Hundred Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

"Seventhly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law John Whisonant two Hundred Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

"Eightly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Joshua Moss ninety-one Dollars and fifty cents paid to him out of my Estate.

"Ninthly I will and bequeath to my son-in-law Gilbreth Dixon Eighty Dollars paid to him out of my Estate.

"Tenthly I will and bequeath that tract of land whereon I now live together with 18 acres I purchased of Robert Black adjoining said tract also 3 and 4/10 acres purchased of Nicholson Whisonant, Sr., adjoining said tract likewise, also two tracts being surveys I made adjoining said land, and containing one hundred and thirty nine acres and the other four hundred and sixty acres, all to be sold together on a credit of 12 months to the highest bidder at day and place of sale.

"Eleventhly I will and bequeath that my 1000 acre survey on Branch of Clarks Fork, adjoining McElwee's Land, Hambright's land and situated in York District, So. Carolina, to be sold to the Highest bidder.

"Twelvthly I will and bequeath that my Negro Man Ned be sold at Public Sale to the highest bidder also my Negro Man Ben to be sold and my Negro Woman Franky with her two children to be also sold.

"Thirteenthly I will and bequeath that my stock of horses and cattle with my Waggon and Harness be all sold together with all other Stock, Hogs, Sheep & Farming Utensils and Household Furniture be all sold in like manner--with one Still and Vessels, with Smith Tools, Including all the rest of my Estate to be sold as above.

"Fourteenthly--I will and bequeath that an Equal divide be made among my Heirs after substracting what has already been received by each.

"And I hereby Revoke all former wills by me made and I do Hereby nominate and appoint Henry Howser and John Whisonant my



Executors, to carry out this my last will and Testament into Execution.

"In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this second day of March 1822.

"Henry Howser

"Test

Jno. Ellis  
Edward Bird  
George Whisonant"

Estate of Henry Howser, Case 23, File 960, York County  
Probate Court, York, S.C.



Appendix B

The Appraisement Bill of the estate of Henry Howser I on May 18, 1822

"Memorandum of the appraisement of the  
Estate of Henry Howser Desceased

Twenty nine head of hogs-----	57.00
One still and vessels -----	66.75
Two Cogs at -----	0.50
Two Mill pich -----	0.75
One Crow bear -----	1.50
One wind mill -----	14.00
Two cows and calf -----	24.00
Ditto two Cows and one calf -----	24.00
19 head of Cattle -----	114.50
One bay gelding -----	125.00
One chestnut gilden -----	140.00
Second bay gilden -----	100.00
One sorrel mar -----	60.00
1 yong horse -----	80.00
1 sorrel horse -----	10.00
1 lot of ruff fead -----	50.50
1 flaxe breathe -----	1.00
1 Cuning nife and Box -----	3.00
1 bucket and barrel -----	4.00
1 lot raw heds -----	22.00
1 lot corn -----	150.00
1 Waggon and harness -----	77.25
1 Crowt Cutter -----	1.25
1 bushel and half of barley -----	1.12-1/2
1 lot of rye -----	5.00
1 lot of Barrel lumber -----	3.25
1 wire sifter -----	2.00
1 Crock of shagar & box Iron -----	2.00
Iron hoops -----	1.25
Bells -----	2.50
two saddles -----	1.00
One lot of Bags and hemp -----	5.25
One kitchen table -----	1.00
Silt and Cradle -----	2.50
two grind stones -----	3.26
reap hooks -----	2.00
One Crow Cut Saw -----	3.00
two Chaine -----	3.25
one lot of Axes -----	1.50
Arm of a still -----	1.50
a lot old iron -----	8.75

one lot of shovels -----	1.00
One lot of Double and Single trees -----	1.00
one lot plows -----	10.25
one set Blacksmith tools -----	51.50
two Cogs -----	0.75
one lot coals-----	4.50
pot and Cettle -----	6.00
one lot of Cuper ware -----	0.50
one lot of Cuper wood -----	1.00
Sheah -----	11.00
Geese -----	1.87-1/2
Wheat -----	5.00
Corn -----	1.00
fire arms -----	30.50
two pair of steelyards -----	5.00
one rocking Cradle -----	0.75
3 glass Boones -----	1.50
Saddle bridle and S d. Wallots -----	28.00
one lot of clean cotton bags -----	07.00
one lot of bags with some grain -----	2.00
one barrel with small quantity of flour -----	2.35
one lot of barr Iron -----	9.37-1/2
one lot of nails & steel at -----	0.50
one lot of Crockery ware at -----	1.25
three bench stocks and furniture -----	73.00
one lot of Edge tools at -----	2.50
one lot of salt with the barrels -----	55.00
one barrel of shugar at -----	15.25
three barrels & /Illegible/ trough at -----	2.25
one lot of hogshead and vessels at -----	19.75
one lot of clean flax at -----	3.00
one sope kettle at -----	5.50
one pare of warping bars & spools -----	2.00
one lot of /Illegible/ casks at -----	8.25
one lot of taned leather at -----	1.25
one lot of mowing sythes at -----	3.00
one loom & harness at -----	17.00
one quill wheel & keg at -----	1.75
one kitchen table at -----	1.00
one negro man ned at -----	825.00
one Negro man ben at -----	800.00
one Negro boy Wilson at -----	300.00
one Negro woman & child at -----	600.00
one kitchen shelf & furniture at -----	28.87
one lot of kitchen ware at -----	18.75

one lot of bacon at -----	66.12
one folding leaf table at -----	6.00
one fore leged table at -----	5.00
one cubbard & furniture at -----	24.87-1/2
one lot of knives & forks at -----	2.50
one lot library books -----	5.00
one bed and furniture -----	55.00
one walnut chest -----	8.00
ditto of waring apperral -----	95.00
one razer and hane -----	1.50
two bedseatts and furniture -----	73.00
one lot of weells and cards -----	8.00
spun yarn -----	15.00
one sugar canister -----	1.00
one clock -----	30.00
one walnut desk -----	25.00
Chairs -----	12.75
flax hitchel -----	3.00
measures -----	1.50
watch -----	7.00
water table -----	1.00
spining weel and unbraela -----	2.75
one lot massary twols -----	3.00
three riddle and gugs -----	3.75
Dogs Irons and Shovel -----	2.50
Lot of groceries -----	2.50
Clean cotton -----	2.37-1/2
tow cloth -----	3.00
Two looking glasses one slate -----	2.50
Twenty five lb of Coofee -----	10.00
and hive of Bees and gums -----	1.50
one harrow and cradle -----	0.50
one two traugh and one canoe -----	4.50
Walter McCarter note -----	50.00
John Cavary note -----	165.51-1/2
James Potter sons note -----	5.12-1/2
Thomas and Bregs Dell Bill -----	65.40
Gilbreth Dickson note -----	10.00
Mathy Patterson -----	1.50
Samuel Gladden note -----	7.20
Joseph Cyzer -----	4.12-1/2
James Hambright -----	5.00
Jacob Sepaugh note -----	13.62-1/2
William Watson note -----	45.38-1/4

Joseph Whisonant note -----	35.90
Henry Howser note -----	70.00
Joab Martin -----	7.12-1/2
Frederick Hambrights note -----	4.40
Henry Whisonant note -----	67.00
Gilberth Dickson note -----	27.85
John Hambright note -----	13.00
Elijah Dover note two dollars -----	2.00
John Howser and Frederick Hanb -----	1.25
John Speers note -----	7.00
David Dickson note -----	4.87-1/4

### To Book Accounts

Joshua Moss -----	1.62-1/2
Clark Jackson -----	0.6-1/4
James Patterson -----	0.50
Frederick Jackson -----	0.43-3/4
Shaslett -----	0.43-3/4
David Hambright -----	1.61-1/4
Jacob Sepaugh -----	10.50
William Quin -----	1.62-1/2
Galbreath Dixon -----	10.75
Bengimen Hambright -----	0.37-1/2
John Celly -----	0.25
Elijah dover -----	0.37-1/2
John Mooney -----	1.50
John McWhorter -----	0.50
Thomas McWhorter -----	0.12-1/2
William Dixon -----	0.62-1/2
John Marten -----	0.25
Frederick Hambright -----	0.25
Jane Ponder -----	2.00
James Walles -----	1.00
Abreham Collens -----	5.50
Peter Hambright -----	0.62-1/2
Black Burn -----	0.75
Capt. Head -----	0.69-1/4
Eligah Fauch -----	1.37-1/2
Samual Dounney -----	0.93-3/4
Mayson Gilban -----	1.50
Henry Howser -----	4.56-1/2



"We the under Signed Apprazers do hereby Certify that we have made a Just Estimate of the goods & Chattles of Henry Howser dec'd, as has been shewn to us by Henry Howser & John Wishonant Executors of Sd. Estate Certified by us this Eleventh day of March 1822

John Ellis

George Wishonant

John Randall

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A Judgement on David Weir Lincoln County N.C.  
omitted for 65.05

considered desparte

A Judgement vs Isaac Collins Lincoln County, N.C.  
for about 22.00

A Judgement on /illegible/ Shoup 109.00

A Judgement vs Wm. Wilkinson 38.00"



# Appendix C

The Sale Bill of the Estate of Henry Howser I, Decd., May 18, 1822

## "The Sale of Howser Deceased

John Hollinger, Sr.	1 Share plow	1.75
John Howser	1 Share plow	2.00
Adam Baird	1 Coulter plow	00.80
William Biggers	1 Coulter plow	00.85
John Howser	1 shovel plow	.32-1/2
John Howser	1 Lot Doubletrees	.40
John Foulis	2 Hides	.62-1/2
John Foulis	2 Hides	.82-3/4
John Foulis	3 Hides	2.62-1/2
William Ponder	1 Hide	2.50
Job Crandell	1 Hide	2.32
Alx Galloway	1 Hide	3.00
Jacob Sepaux	2 Augers & Drawing Knife	2.00
Jacob Sepaux	2 auger & 2 chisels & Draw	1.00
John Whisonant	1 Square & Gauge	.50
John Hill	2 Augers and handsaw	.50
John Howard	2 grubbing hows	1.91
H. Howser	2 pair fetters	.56-1/4
Henry Howser	1 Log chain	2.25
Henry Howser	1 Lot old iron	.50
Peter Howser	3 axes	1.10
John Steward	1 howe & Ax	.80
John Mullins, Sr.	old pewter	1.25
Henry Howser	1 road waggon	77.00
Nicholas Mog	1 crosscut saw	2.00
Jacob Sepaux	2 hogs 1st choice	7.25
John Fauls	2 Hogs 2d choice	4.12-1/2
John Hambright	4 Hogs 3 choice	5.31-1/4
Wm. Dickson	4 hogs 4th choice	2.91
Do	4 hogs 5 choice	2.65
Henry Howser	4 hogs 6 choice	2.12-1/2
William Dickson	4 hogs 7 choice	2.07-1/2
Michael Hambright	4 hogs 8 choice	1.82
James Hambright	4 hogs 9 choice	1.32-1/4
Josiah Boberts	1 Sorrel Horse	28.00
Christine Howser	1 Sorrel Mare	40.00
Henry Hoover	1 Bay horse	102.50
Samuel Green	1 Sorrel horse	135.52
Joseph Biggers	1 Bay horse	132.90
James M. Pursley	1 Bay horse	74.00
John Howser	1,000 acres	163.00
Henry Howser	The premisis containing 700 acres	3,101.00

David Howser	150 acres on Cain Creek	500.00
John McElwee, Jr.	1 Negro Man Ned	877.00
Alexander Galloway	1 Negro Man Ben	805.00
John Fouls	1 Lead line	.20-1/4
John Fouls	1 Blind Bridle	.50
Widdow	1 small Negro Boy	330.00
John Whisonant	1 Negro woman & Child	618.76
George Whisonant	Blacksmith tools	53.07
George Whisonant	Sam Cole	3.12-1/2
George Whisonant	2 Cogs and <u>Illegible</u>	.50
John Fouls	1 pine table	.51-1/4
Frederick Hambright	1 Crout plain	2.03
John Fouls	1 Grindstone	2.50
William Dickson	1 Grindstone	.33
Henry Howser	3 reap Hooks	.56-1/4
Jacob Sepaux	4 reap Hooks	1.25
John Whisonant	1 Lot old iron	.50
John Whisonant	1 Lot old iron & wheel	.80
John Howser	1 Lot iron hoops	1.12-1/2
Absalom Taylor	3 Cow Bells	.78
George Ferguson	1 pair chains	3.00
George Ferguson	1 pair chains	3.00
Gilbert Dickson	1 Lot Lumber	.25
Samuel Burns, Jr.	4 Bells	2.52
Nathan Massy	1 Sythe & Crede	1.50
Benjamin Jones	1 Keck chain	.88-1/2
George Ferguson	1 Lot of iron & <u>Illegible</u>	3.00
Henry Howser	2 Meal Barrels	2.01
William Ponder	2 Meal Bags	1.31
Samuel Burns	2 Meal Bags	2.00
Henry Howser	1 Wire Sifter	1.61-1/4
John Fouls	1 Lot rye per Bushel	1.82
John Fouls	1 Lot Barley	1.50
William Watson	1 Lot Hemp	.56-1/4
Samuel Mills	1 Bull	10.56-1/4
William Biggers	1 Cow and Calf	18.05
Davis House	1 cow	8.87-1/2
Frederick Hambright	1 white black cow	8.00
Gilbert Dickson	2 small Heifer	8.25
William Watson	1 red pided steer	10.25
Nathan Massy	1 red pided steer	12.00
Samuel Mills	1 red steer	13.01
Jess Ray	2 small steers	10.26
Joseph Pierson	1 red cow	10.00

Hoover	1 red and white Heifer	8.25
Samuel Mills	1 spotted Heifer	7.56-1/4
Jess Ray	1 small steer & Heifer	5.62-1/2
Samuel Mills	1 white faced Cow	11.07
Davis House	2 small steers	5.06-1/2
William Countryman	1 small steer	3.66
George Burns	2 hundred bundles fodder	4.00
Do	Do	4.00
M. Patterson	1 Lot fodder	3.31
William Dickson	1 Lot Oats	12.19
George Wilky	1 Lot chaff	3.00
John Whisonhunt	1 Win mill	15.00
William Watson	1 Flax brake	.51
Henry Howser	1 clock & case	30.00
Jacob Sepaux	1 Walnut cupboard	40.00
George Wilky, Jr.	1 side Saddle	1.00
William Watson	1 man's saddle	9.00
John Davison	1 Shot gun	6.26
George Ferguson	1 Rifle gun	16.00
Joshua Moss	1 pair holsters & pistols	11.07
Robert Dickson	1 pair stillyards	2.32
James Collier	27 lbs. bacon 20 cts. per lb.	5.40
George Wilky, Jr.	43-1/2 lbs. bacon 27 cts. per lb.	11.82-1/2
Jacob Sepaux	24-1/2 lbs. bacon 25 cts. per lb.	6.12-1/4
Silvester Heagons	23 lbs. bacon 26-1/2 cts. per lb.	6.11-1/4
James Collier	33 lbs. bacon 28 cts. per lb.	9.24
Joseph Logan	36 lbs bacon 38-3/4 cts. per lb.	11.25
Silvester Heagons	30 lbs. bacon 28-1/2 cts. per lb.	8.55
Jacob Sepaux	33-1/2 lbs. bacon 35 cts. per lb.	11.71-3/4
James Collier	95 lbs. bacon 40 cts. per lb.	18.00
Martha Patterson	9-1/2 lbs. bacon 13 cts. per lb.	1.21-1/2
Silvester Heagons	30 lbs. bacon 28-1/2 cts. per lb.	8.55
William Scoggins	10 bus. corn 2.00 per bu.	20.00
William Scoggins	10 bu. corn 2d lot 1.61-1/2 per bu.	16.15
William Scoggins	10 bu. corn 3d lot 1.66-1/2 per bu.	16.65
John Mooney, Sr.	10 bu. corn 4th lot 1.71 per bu.	17.10
Thomas Allison	10 bu. corn 5th lot 1.62 per bu.	16.20
Silvester Heagons	10 bu. corn 6th lot 1.63 per bu.	16.30
Gilbreath Dickson	1 15 gal. pot & hooks	3.62
do	1 copper kittle	1.00
do	1 churn & pot	.12-1/2
Widow Howser	1 churn	.16-1/2
John Howser	1 wash tub	1.00
Widow Howser	1 lot crocks	.12-1/2

William Dickson	1 7-gallon pot	1.50
Michael Hambright	1 oven	1.56-1/2
Widow Howser	1 spider & skillet	1.12-1/2
Aaron Inman	1 pot	1.56-1/2
Widow Howser	1 small pot & oven	2.12-1/2
Widow Howser	2 pans, 3 ladles & 1 fork	1.00
John Howser	1 large puter dish	1.70
John Howser	1 do	1.63-1/2
John Whisenhunt	1 large bason	1.63-1/2
John Howser	1 bason	1.27
Jacob Sepaux	1/2 dozen putter plates	2.00
John Howser	1/2 dozen puter plates	1.18-3/4
John Whisenhunt	1 bason	.81-1/4
Jacob Sepaux	1 lot kives & forks	.56-1/4
Gilbrath Dickson	1/2 dozen puter spoons	.31-1/4
John Howser	5 puter spoons	.25
Charles Henry	1 coffee mill	.12-1/2
Widdow Howser	1 lot of puter and tin coffee pot	10.00
Jacob Sepaux	1 Bason and coffee pot	.68-3/4
Gilbreth Dickson	1 coffee pot and dinner <u>/illegible/</u>	.25
Gilbreth Dickson	1 Lot Milk Vessels	.30
Gilbreth Dickson	1 lot tin ware &c	1.00
John Howser	1 skillet and pot	.39-1/2
John Howser	1 large skillet, and <u>/illegible/</u>	1.08
John Howser	1 pine table	1.18-3/4
John Hill	1 tin trunk	.81-1/4
John Hill	1 small trunk	.62-1/2
Frederick Hambright	1 pitcher	1.75
Aaron Inman	1 Lot Coffee cups 2 glasses	1.12-1/2
Widdow Howser	1 Lot of Sundrys	3.00
John Crego	1 pair spectacles	.25
Joseph Kiser	1 Lot tin ware	.06-1/4
William Logan	1 Lot Beswax	.86
Aaron Inman	1 Loom, 4 slays & Harness	12.12-1/4
Widdow Howser	1 Web of cloth	4.12-1/2
John Whisonant	1 pine table	2.12-1/2
Jacob Sepaux	1 flax wheel	1.25
Jacob Sepaux	1 Cag and vinegar	.75
Henry Howser	1 stone jug	.12-1/2
George Whisonant	1 stone jub and honey	2.00
Aaron Whisonant	1 lot Iron 32 lbs. 6-1/2 per lb.	2.08
George Burns	40 lbs. iron	3.00
Gilbreth Dickson	41 lbs. iron	2.56-1/4



Frederick Hambright	40 lbs. iron	2.80
James Mullenax	37 lbs. iron	2.68-1/2
Cyrus Burnes	1 Bucket & half bushel	1.37-1/2
Joseph Hambright	2 Bushels Salt	4.25
William Watson	2 Bushels Salt	4.32-1/2
Frederick Hambright	2 Bushels Salt	4.35
John Steward	2 Bushels Salt	4.34
William Dickson	2 Bushels Salt	4.26
John Hollinger	1 Lot Salt	4.26
John Ellis	1 Lot Salt	4.27
Frederick Hambright	1 Lot Salt	4.27
do	do	4.27
Martha Patterson	1 Lot Salt	4.25
John Howser	1 Cask	1.75
David Howser	1 Cask	1.50
John Howser	2 Cags	.18-3/4
John Howser	1 Cask	1.81-1/4
John Whisonant	1 Meal Trough	.30
Martha Patterson	1 Tin Bucket	1.00
Mary Hambright	1 Crock and fat	1.00
Jacob Sepaux	25 lbs. lard	3.50
Jacob Sepaux	20 lbs. lard	3.50
Widdow Howser	1 pot	1.00
Jacob Sepaux	20 lbs. lard	2.80
William Watson	1 Lot Leather	2.50
Isaac Wells	1 Wheel and Spools	1.37-1/2
Wiley Moss	1 pair stilyards	1.80
Henry Howser	2 sythes	.29
Joseph Parker	2 cutting knives & sythe	.18-3/4
John Howser	1 Lot tin ware	.75
Henry Howser	2 Sythes	1.20
John Howser	1 Iron fork	.50
Joshua Moss	1 pair Saddle Bags	1.61
Gilbreth Dickson	1 gallon pot and funnel	1.00
Henry Howser	1 how and spade	.87-1/2
George Whisonant	1 Lot Oats 25 cts. per bu.	
Gilbreth Dickson	1 Cutting Box & Knife	2.50
Henry Howser	1 Barrel and Meal	1.06-1/4
Isaac Wells	1 Lot Geese	1.25
John Howser	1 Bee hive	1.12-1/2
Moses Gladden	1 Copper Still & Vessels	100.00
John Howser	1 Canal	.87-1/2
Joshua Moss	1 Crow Bar & Mill picks	2.00
John Howser	3 Barrels	.50
John Howser	2 Troughs	.55

John Hambright	11 head sheep	12.62-1/2
Jacob Sepaux	1 Flax Hackle	4.00
John Whisonant	1 Bottle of oil	.53
Widow Howser	1 Lot Flax	1.26
John Whisenhunt	1 rocking cradle	.20
Gilbreth Dickson	22-1/4 picked cotton & bag	3.63
Widow Howser	15 lbs. cotton	2.40
John Howser	1 Lot milk vessels	1.37-1/2
do	2 bags & innards	1.06-1/4
do	1 empty bag	.41
Widow Howser	2 boxes & glass	.57-1/4
do	1 basket cats & all	.25
Jacob Sepaux	1 flour barrel	.16
do	1 bed stand & bedding	8.00
John Howser	1 bed stand & bedding	20.12-1/2
John Howser	1 bed stand & bedding	16.00
Isaac Wells	1 bag & sursingle	.56-1/4
James Hambright	1 Lot shaving utensials	1.13-1/2
John Howser	1 basket of sundries	.25
do	1 lot riddles	1.37-1/2
do	1 brush	.06-1/4
William Quin	1 lot fire rings & fal do	2.37-1/2
Jacob Sepaux	1 cotton wheel &c.	1.37-1/2
Widow Howser	1 flax wheel & reel	3.01
do	1 basket & cotton	.50
David Howser	1 lot cards	.25
John Howser	1 candle stand	1.06-1/2
Jacob Sepaux	1 lot steel & chain	.60
John Whisenhunt	1 folding table	6.12-1/2
Widow Howser	1 basket	.18
Gilbreath Dickson	1 empty desk	24.12-1/2
John Howser	1 guilting watch	8.81-1/4
Widow Howser	wearing apparel of the Decd.	1.00
Jacob Sepaux	1 fur hat	3.00
Henry Howser	1 lot stays	.75
Henry Howser	1 book	.38
John Howser	1 cannister	.37-1/2
John Hill	2 winsor chairs	1.75
do	do	1.75
do	do	2.00
John Whisonhunt	1 widsor chair	1.87-1/2
John Howser	1 lot chairs	2.00
Henry Howser	14-3/4 yds. cloth 50 cts. per yd.	7.10-1/4
do	8-1/4 yds. cloth 51 cts. per yd.	4.00

Samuel Carrington	5 yrs. cloth 52 cts. per yd.	2.60
Henry Howser	5-1/2 yds. cloth 51 cts per yd.	2.57
Widow Howser	1 pair fire rings	1.00
do	4-3/4 yds. cloth 12-1/2 cts. per yd.	.50
Jacob Sepaux	1 looking glass	2.00
Widow Howser	1 small looking glass	.12
John Howser	1 slat	.37-1/2
do	1 umbrella	.13-1/2
do	2 old chains	.65
Jacob Sepaux	1 bed Stand and bedding	26.25
do	1 bed stand & curtains	33.00
Aaron Inman	1 lot powder	.62-1/2
Gilbreath Dickson	1 lot indigo	.50
Aaron Whisonhunt	1 lot buttons	.31-1/4
do	1 lot shot & lock	.26
Gilbeath Dickson	1 yd. girth webb	.18
Henry Howser	1 lot show tools	.39
Gilbeath Dickson	1 Dozen buttons	.35
James Hambright	1 pair fire rings	.76
Wm. Dickson	1 jack screw	2.01
Henry Howser	2 barrels & bevel	.06-1/4
John Howser	1 field of wheat next the lane	25.12-1/2
Moses Gladden	1 lot wheat on the right	12.00
Gilbeath Dickson	1 lot rye	6.50
David Howser	1 puter dish	1.06-1/4
Gilbeath Dickson	1 lot tin cups	.40
Widow Howser	1 bread tray	.12
Frederick Hambright	1 pint coffee	.50
John Howser	1 lot of ironware	1.37-1/2
James Hambright	2 pint of coffee	1.00
Frederick Hambright	2 pints of coffee	1.00
George Wilky, Jr.	4 pints coffee & bag	2.20
George Wilky, Jr.	3 pints coffee	1.50
Josiah Hambright	ballance coffee	.12-1/2
John Hambright	1 pint coffee	.50
Widow Howser	1 pint casher ware	.25 "



Appendix D

The Appraisement Bill of the Estate of Henry Howser II deceased

"Inventory of Appraisement of Personal property of  
Henry Howser Decd. Oct. 24th 1842

	\$ Cts
One set of Black Smith tools	30.00
One set of Wagon Hubs	4.00
2 Raw Hides	3.00
1 Cask with Tar	1.50
1 lot of Coal	1.50
1 Grey Horse	45.00
1 Do Do	20.00
1 Sorel Do	25.00
1 Sorel Mare	65.00
1 Sorel Filey	45.00
1 Bay Horse	65.00
1 Brown Mule	45.00
1 Lot of Sheep	14.00
1 Lot of Fodder	45.00
1 Lot of Hay	32.00
1 Small Lot of Oats	3.75
1 Still and Vesals	75.00
1 Small Lot of Wagon Timber	1.50
1 Lot of Cog do	.50
1 Lot of Staves	.50
1 Lot of Hogs	58.25
4 Cows	40.00
1 do	9.00
1 Heifer	7.00
1 Small do	3.50
1 Stear	4.00
1 Cow	10.00
1 Heifer	5.00
1 Heifer	3.00
1 Stear	3.50
1 Small Heifer	2.00
6 Calves	8.00
1 Wagon	75.00
1 Carry all do	35.00
1 Truck Wagon	2.00
1 Harrow	1.00
2 Plows	21.80
1 Lot of Do	21.00
1 Doubletree	.50

1 Flax Brake	.25
2 Sythes and Cradles	4.00
2 old do do	2.00
2 mowing sythes	2.00
1 Lot of old Irons	.75
1 Iron Wedge	.25
1 Lot of Shovels and Mattocks	1.00
1 Broad ax	1.00
1 Joinder	.75
1 Foot adz	.50
5 Augars	1.50
2 Plains	.25
2 Chisels and Bell	1.00
2 Reap Hooks	.50
2 Halter Chains	.50
2 Brazier	2.00
1 Cross Cut Saw	3.00
1 Hand Saw and Drawing Knife	1.50
1 Lot of gearing	4.75
4 plow line	.50
1 Wagon Saddle	3.00
1 Saddle and Saddle Bags	8.00
1 Grind Stone	1.00
1 turning lathe	.25
1 old Side Saddle	1.00
800 bushels of corn suposed to be	320.00
1 Lot of Husks	10.00
2 Wheel Barows	1.25
1 Beyer Sythe	.50
21 Geese	6.00
1 pair of Steelyards	1.00
Some Mile Irons	2.10
1 Lot of Rye Supposed to be 28 bushels	17.40
35 do of Wheat Supposed	35.00
1 Barrol of Brandy supposed 45	22.50
1 do of whyky Supposed 40	20.00
2 bushels of salt	4.00
1 Lot of Barrols	5.00
2 Wheat Boxes	1.50
6 Bushels of Wheat	6.00
1 Lot of Tin Measures	.50
1 Fat tub and kit	.62
1 Cask	.75
1 jug	.50



1 Shovel Mole	.50
13 axes and Frow	4.00
nails supposed to be 70 lb	4.90
1 Lot Barrole	1.00
2 Wheals and Real	3.00
1 Flax Wheal and 2 pr. Cards	3.75
2 Rocking Cradles	5.50
6 stools chairs	3.00
6 Split Do	2.00
2 Side Saddles	40.00
1 Rifle Gun	7.00
1 Folding Table	2.50
1 Desk	6.00
1 Patent Clock	8.00
1 Looking Glass	1.00
1 Old Fashioned Clock	3.00
1 Cupboard	11.00
1 Pine Box	.37
1 Bureau	15.00
3 Bushels flax seed	2.25
1 Weaving Loom	4.00
2 Walnut Tables	3.50
1 Lot Cooper Ware	1.25
1 Lot Stone do	1.00
1 Lot tin do	.50
1 Lot Castings	5.25
1 Dressor	1.00
1 Tray and Siv	.50
1 Negro Woman and Child	400.00
1 do girl Mary	350.00
1 Boy Ned	400.00
1 do Cudjo	350.00
1 do Man Addam	400.00
1 Negro girl Malisa	350.00
1 Lot of Cabbage	2.00
Cupboard Furniture	9.37
1 Bed and Furniture	22.00
1 do do	25.00
1 do do	10.00
1 do do	25.00
1 do do	15.00
1 do do	15.00
1 Box and Bed Clothing	45.75
Chest and Wareing Apparel	5.00

2 Band Boxes	1.00
2nd Lot of Castings	3.00
2nd lot of Hogs	10.00
3rd Lot of Barole	1.00
111 lb of Bacon	8.88
1 Bay Mare	70.00
1 Bull	8.00
Amount of Notes	2,092.25
\$14 of the above doubtful	
Amount of Money on hand	273.25
Amount of Accounts	51.95
	<hr/>
	6,368.53

"We the undersigned being three of the appraisors appointed to appraise the personal Estate Henry Howser, Decd, do hereby Certify the foregoing to be a true inventory of such shown by the appraisment given under hands.

J. D. Fulton"

"The appraisement Bill of the Estate of Henry Howser deceased. Returned to me on oath the 25th Nov. 1842.

B. Coy D"

Recorded in Book of Inventories Apprs. S.C., pages 269, 270, 271, 272, & 273

Appendix E

"Sale Bill of Estate of Henry Howser II, Decd., October 26th 1842

J. T. Howser	2 plows	.25
J. M. Deal	2 plows	.37-1/2
Abram Hardin	1 plow and dubletree	.18-3/4
Abram Hardin	1 shovel	.06-1/4
Fathy Howser	1 lot of plows	1.00
Fathy Howser	1 hay fork	.50
do do	1 wheal barow	.25-1/2
Sarah Delingham	1 pair of trucks	1.12-1/2
J. T. Howser	1 Caryale Wagon	22.25
F. Howser	1 Road Wagon	50.00
J. T. Howser	1 Still and Vesals	46.00
F. Howser	1 Sow and pigs	2.00
J. M. Deal	2 Hogs	4.00
J. T. Howser	2 do do	3.75
A. Hardin	2 Hogs	3.00
J. T. Howser	2 Hogs	2.37
F. Howser	5 do	1.25
do do	5 do	1.25
do do	16 do	4.00
J. T. Howser	1 Apple Mill	.06-1/4
F. Howser	1 pot	.50
Joseph Kendrick	2 Hay stakes	3.26
J. T. Howser	1 sow and shoats	1.00
do do	1 do do	1.00
do do	1 Barow	1.04-1/4
A. Hardin	1 Cow	9.00
F. Howser	1 do	7.00
do do	1 do	5.00
do do	1 do	7.00
William Goforth	1 do	7.12-1/2
F. Howser	1 Heifer	2.62
F. Howser	1 do	2.00
do do	2 do	4.00
Edward Weaver	1 Cow	7.62
J. T. Howser	1 Bull	5.00
F. Howser	1 Stear	4.00
A. Hardin	1 do	3.00
F. Howser	2 Sythes and Cradles	2.12
do	2 do	1.00
do	1 broad ax	1.00
J. Blalock, Sr.	1 shovel mole	.25
J. T. Howser	1 Jointer	.37-1/2

F. Howser	1	2-inch Augar	.37
William Goforth	1	foot adz	.75
F. Howser	4	Augars	.62
do	2	Chisels	.37-1/2
J. T. Howser	2	plains	.06-1/2
F. Howser	1	bell	.25
do	1	Box & contents	.12-1/2
R. M. Roark	1	Mill Spanel	.50
A. Hardin	1	Crow Bar	.50
J. T. Howser	1	Mattock	.25
F. Howser	1	Lot of old iron	1.37
Dan Whisonant	1	Ax hoe and hamer	.62-1/2
Fathy Howser	2	shovels	.25
George Gofarth	2	Brasses	.31-1/4
F. Howser	1	Grab Hoe	.18-3/4
do	1	horse	40.00
do	1	do	28.00
do	1	filly	20.00
J. T. Howser	1	horse	45.00
Eliza Howser	1	mare	55.00
Gorge Goforth	1	mule	\$40.00
John Dickson	1	mare	60.00
Jacob Collins	1	horse	2.25
J. T. Howser	6	barols	2.62-1/2
Fathy Howser	1	Froe	.25
do	2	axes	1.00
do	1	crosscut saw	2.50
do	1	hand do	1.25
A. Hardin	50	Bushels Corn	18.00
J. T. Howser	50	do do	18.75
F. Howser	100	do do	35.00
J. Kendrick	50	do do	17.80
John Dickson	50	do do	16.50
R. Swan	338	do do	118.30
Robt. Hady	50	do do	17.50
F. Howser	50	do do	17.50
F. Howser	10	do Refuse	1.25
Zach Earls	5	Bushels Wheat	5.65
John Collins	5	do do	6.87
Zach Earls	5	do do	5.80
Posy Martin	5	do do	5.65
Zach Earls	20	do do	22.60
Zach Earls	10	do Rye	7.86
J. Hambright	5	do do	4.00

J. T. Howser	5	do	do	3.90
Wm. Goforth	5	do	do	3.85
Jacob Hulmer	5	Bushels	Rye	3.80
F/ <u>aithy</u> / Howser	2	Negroes	(one woman & child)	400.00
John Dickson	1	Boy	Adam	421.00
F. Howser	1	Boy	Ned	370.00
George Goforth	1	Girl	Mary	400.00
J. T. Howser	1	Boy	Cudjo	425.00
Wm. Goforth	1	Girl	Malisa	414.00
F. Howser	1	Saddle and	Bags	2.00
Wm. Goforth	1	old	saddle	2.00
J. T. Howser	1	pair of	gear	.62-1/2
Wm. Goforth	1	pair	do	.75
Wm. McElwee	1	do		2.06-1/2
F. Howser	1	Lot	plow lines	.12-1/2
J. T. Howser	1	Bridle		.12-1/2
Gilly Moss, Jr.	31	galons	whiskey	15.81
do	40	galons of	Brandy	20.80
F. Howser	30	<u>illegible</u>	oats	3.75
John McCarta	1000	Bundles	fodder	5.00
F. Howser	1500	do		6.80
Aaron Whisonant	500	do		2.50
Ed Bird	1000	Bundles	fodder	4.50
John McCarta	2	Loads of	Hay	4.00
R. Swan	10	do		15.00
F. Howser	21	geese		5.25
R. L. Patterson	1	Rifle	gun	8.00
F. Howser	6	Sheep		4.50
J. M. Deal	8	do		6.00
F. Howser	1	set	smith tools	31.00
A. Hardin	1	Lot	wagon wood	1.87-1/2
F. Howser	1	Keg of	Tar	.25
Wm. Goforth	2	Raw	Hides	2.00
F. Howser	6	calvs		6.00
F. Howser	1	Lot of	Hucks	1.12-1/2
F. Howser	1	Cupboard		12.00
F. Howser	1	pine	Box	.22
P. H. Jones	1	old	Clock	2.93
F. Howser	1	Pattent	clock	6.00
F. Howser	1	Looking	glass	1.00
Eliza Howser	1	Desk		5.50
F. Howser	1	Bureau		18.00
F. Howser	1	Bed &	furniture	14.00
F. Howser	1	do		13.00

F. Howser	1	do	3.00
F. Howser	1	do	5.00
J. T. Howser	1	do	15.00
F. Howser	1	Chest and contents	15.00
F. Howser	6	stools chairs	6.00
Eliza Howser	1	Bed & furniture	29.00
F. Howser	1	Box of clothes	1.00
J. E. Floyd	1	Lot of Nails	5.43
F. Howser	2	Wheels Real & Cards	5.75
George Goforth	1	Wire siav	.75
J. T. Howser	1	Wheal	.20
P. H. Jones	2	Cradles	.06-1/4
Wm. Goforth	2	bushels of Flax seed	1.49
P. H. Jones	1	do	.76
George Goforth	61	bacon	4.53
R. Weaver	1	Lot Bacon	2.30
A. Hardin	1	do	1.54
J. T. Howser	1	grind stone	.62-1/2
F. Howser	1	Loom	2.00
F. Howser	1	Table	1.00
F. Howser	1	Drisor	.50
F. Howser	1	Lot of Castings	1.00
F. Howser	1	Table	.25
F. Howser	1	Coffee Mill	.25
F. Howser	6	Chairs	1.00
Eliza Howser	1	Table	1.50
J. T. Howser	1	Lot Staves	.06-1/4
F. Howser	1	Set Land Irons	.25
P. H. Jones	1	side sadle	.06-1/4
J. T. Howser	1	Cow	9.00
Wm. Goforth	2	Lots of Cabbage	.87-1/2
George Goforth	1	tub and Churn	.3-1/2
P. H. Jones	1	Lathe	.03
F. Howser	1	pr. Seelyards	.25
F. Howser	1	Wheel Boy	1.00
J. T. Howser	1	do	1.00
F. Howser	4	Barrols	.50
Michael Hambright	1	do	.62-1/2
Wm. Goforth	1	fosett & kit	.62-1/2
J. M. Deal	1	jug	.50
Henry Clark	1	Bushel salt	1.75
Wm. Goforth	1	Barrol	.12-1/2
George Goforth	1	Tub	.10
F. Howser	1	half Bushel	.25



F. Howser	8 gallons Brandy	3.00
J. T. Howser	1 Bushel salt	1.50
J. L. Roark	5 bushels wheat	5.62-1/2
James Hardin	2-1/2 do	2.82
Wm. Broom	7 do	7.91
F. Howser	1 side saddle	20.00
Eliza Howser	1 side saddle	20.00
Faithy Howser	1 calling cane & knife	1.00
do	1 bushel Rye	1.75

Sale Bill is 3710-20 The loss in the sale  
of property is  
\$240.85

Notes on hand 2092-25

Cash on hand 273-25

Account as appears on book 51-95

Amount of personal est 6127.65

1.75  
\$6129.40 "

"The Sale Bill of the Estate of Henry Howser  
deceased Returned to me on oath the 25th day  
of Nov. 1842

G. B. Coy, D"

Recorded in Book of Inventories &c pages 273, 274,  
275, 276 & 277.



## Appendix F

"Last Will and Testament of John Howser

"Will of John Howser

"York District

"South Carolina

"In the name of God Amen, I John Howser of the State of South Carolina, District of York, Being of Sound and Disposing Mind, but in a Low State of health and Knowing the frailty of mortality I do make and Ratify my Last Will and Testament.

"I resign my Soul to Almighty God who gave it and I will that my Body be Buried in Christian Order as it represents the property God has blessed me with. I will that it be disposed of as follows:

"1st I will that all my just Debts be paid out of my estate.

"2d I will and bequeath unto my beloved wife Nancy the choice of my two plantations, either the one on Kings Creek containing 70 acres or the plantation where I now live containing 340 acres with all the rights and privileges there during her Natural lifetime, and the other one of these two before mentioned plantations to be rented out to the highest bidder annually and the rent applied to the support and education of the family until my youngest child shall arrive at the age of 21 years old, then the Executor or Executors of this my will are required to put the plantation formerly rented out to sale and divide the price equally amongst the children, after making them equal with those that have received part of the dividends before hand and as I purchased all that tract of land my father's estate sold as the McCorther's tract on the South Side of Kings Mountain and there remains a part of said tract, vis 333 1/3 acres, that I have not yet received any title for as such I will that my executor obtain from the executors of my father's Estate the title for said land and if it can be obtained and proceed to sell to the highest bidder and divide the price amongst my children as before mentioned.

"I also will my beloved wife Nancy one Negro man named Washington and all the stock of hogs that I now own and so much of the stock of neet cattle as she in her discretion may think proper to retain for the use of the family. I also will that my stock of horse beasts be left to her to use and dispose of to the children as they may need agreeable to her discretion.

"I also will that the Negro Woman Jinny be hired out annually until my youngest child arrives at age of 21 years old and then to be sold and the money divided as before mentioned in other cases.

"I also will that all my household and kitchen furniture and the Implements of Husbundry be left to my beloved wife Nancy to use and dispose of to the children as they come of age of 21 years old, agreeable to her discretion.

"I will that the Still and vessels be sold also a small Waggon and truckle waggon, also the Surplus of Neet cattle if any there be after my wife Nancy retaining so much as she may need, and the money applied to the family as they may arrive at the age of 21 years old, and if there be any property not mentioned I will that it be disposed of as before mentioned and I do hereby Revoke all former wills by me made and I hereby ordain my wife Nancy Howser and Thomas N. Martin as the sole Executors of this my Last Will and Testament.

"N.B. I will that all the property that I Bequeath unto my beloved wife Nancy at her death that it be sold and divided as before mentioned in the property, Except she should die before the children all arrive at full age in that case the Executor shall retain the property until the children all come to full age and then sell and divide as before mentioned.

"I will that my large Waggon Remain on the plantation with my wife Nancy and for the use and benefit of my family and as there is a Negro boy named Bill that has been omitted I will that he be hired out annually as the Negro woman until the children all come to full age and the money applied to the use of the family as before Mentioned. Signed and Sealed this 29th of November 1832."

Will admitted for probate March 25, 1833.

John Howser, Case 5, File 195, York County Probate Court, York, S.C.

# Appendix G

## Appraisement of the Goods & Chattels of John Howser, Decd.

"1 road wagon <u>/Illegible/</u> craft	
hind gears & reacher	\$65.00
1 small carry all wagon & 2 beds	35.00
1 truckoll wagon (old)	6.00
1 chain hobble	.75
1 shovel plough, single tree & chain	1.50
1 brown mare & young coult	75.00
1 bay horse	50.00
1 small filly (3 year old)	15.00
1 brown do (2 years old)	30.00
1 pair gears, 1 pr hanes & tree straps	2.50
1 old wagon-saddle, surcingle, bridle	
bitts, & sundry straps of leather	1.00
2 haulter chains & collars	.50
1 leather _____, 1 lot augers, chisels, iron	
wedge, dung fork & sundry old iron	2.50
3 plain stocks & bitts	1.75
1 crowbar (Iron), coulter stock, single	
tree, pitchfork and 2 hoes	2.00
1 drawing knife, foot adz, 1 hammer,	
2 <u>/Illegible/</u> & 1 auger	2.25
2 stands bees	2.00
1 crowbar (iron) 2 sledge hamers, 3 house	
hamers, & 4 stove augers (iron), &	
2 mattocks	\$4.45
2 chopping axes, & 1 shovel plough	2.00
1 still, cap & worm, 9 hogsheads & matts,	
1 matt tub & 1 slate stand	70.00
1 apple-mill & 2- 30 gal casks	1.75
2 Yokes for oxen	.50
1 broken plough, shear & false coulter	.25
1 bellows, anville & sundry hamers, tongs,	
punches, files &c.	17.00
1 handsaw, old drawing knife & square	.25
Sundry old plough-shears, scrap iron &c.	2.50
1 cow with calf & bell	9.00
2 young bulls, (oxen)	10.00
2 " " "	8.00
4 cows & calves, each \$10.00	40.00
2 young heifers do 3.00	6.00
1 large cow & calf	11.00
2 young heifers	4.50
1 hog in pen	1.37-1/2
1 curry comb old spade & old sickoll	.25

<u>/illegible/</u>	2.00
1 lot books	1.25
2 slates	.37-1/2
1 folding leafe table	2.00
1 lot chairs	2.50
1 riffle gun, moulds & wipors	13.00
1 demajone, 1 jar, 2 jugs	2.00
1 lot sugar & coffee	3.00
1 lot crocks	.75
1 looking-glass	.50
1 spinning wheel	1.25
1 check <u>/illegible/</u>	.50
1 pr. cotton cards (new)	.62-1/2
1 pr. cotton cards (old)	.12-1/2
1 gilted watch	5.00
1 razor & case, strap & shaving base	1.00
1 sett largo and irons	.62-1/2
2 smoothing irons	.62-1/2
1 fire shovel	.25
1 dye pot, lid & skillet	2.00
1 crib say about 250 bushel corn	112.50
1 lot say about 460 lbs bacon @ 10¢	40.00
1 lot rye say about 8 bushels @ 50¢	4.00
1 lot salt say about 4 bushels @ \$1.50	6.00
1 flax wheel	1.00
1 lot barrels, bosces &c	2.25
1 cross cut saw	3.75
1 bed stead & furniture	10.00
1 Iron square	.37-1/2
1 bed stead & furniture with curtains	15.00
1 bed stead & furniture	12.00
1 bed stead & furniture (trudles)	5.00
2 bed stead & furniture	15.00
3 sheets (white)	3.75
1 <u>/illegible/</u> bed quilt & 2 old blankets	4.50
3 do	4.50
1 sewing table	2.00
1 large red chest	2.00
1 time clock	14.00
1 fine corner cupboard, 2-1/2 doz. plates cups & saucers &c	15.00
1 pr. pot hooks, ladle, flesh fork	.75
1 fire shovel (large)	.25
1 lot puter, delph, knives & forks, gallon pot, ten cup &c.	6.00



3 water pails & 1 piggin	1.00
1 churn & half bushel	.62-1/2
1 mens saddle	9.00
1 lot carting (old)	3.50
2 old washing tubs	.50
1 spinning wheel	1.00
1 spinning wheel & cards	1.12-1/2
1 loom & apperates belonging	5.00
1 old kitchen table; old side saddle, old bell &c.	1.00
1 bread tray & wire sieve	.50
1 pr. warping bars, spool rack & spools	1.00
1 syth & cradle	1.50
1 syth & cradle	1.50
1 lot old barrels	1.75
2 pots full lard	5.00
1 old plough shear	.25
1 log chain	2.00
1 side saddle-bridle	10.00
4 head sheep	5.00
1000 Bundles fodder @75¢	7.50
1 lot hogs	23.00
1 Negro man named Washington	450.00
1 Negro boy named Bill	220.00
1 Negro woman named Jincy	290.00
1 broad asce, 1 pr. hog tongs	1.75
1 old plough shear & 1 pr. old chains	.62-1/2
1 old cow bell	.25
1 lot fodder	7.50
some old keys &c.	.12-1/2
1 button tongue Iron	.50

The deceased's clothing disposed of  
before making appraisal by Mrs. Howser

1 Note on Thomas N. Martin for	\$68.91
Interest to April 9, 1833	<u>3.61</u>
	\$72.52

1 Note on Allen White for	\$ 2.00
Interest to April 9th	<u>.08</u>
	2.08

Book a/c against Babour Earle	1.50
Book a/c against Joseph McCook	1.62-1/2
Book a/c against Jacob Etter	1.12-1/2
Book a/c against Joseph Roark	.18-3/4
Book a/c against Wm. Roark	.18-3/4
Book a/c against James Moreland	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Oliver Quinn	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Wm. Griffin	.75
Book a/c against John Morgan	.25
Book a/c against Wm. Parker, Jr.	.37-1/2
Book a/c against Charles Morgan	.25
Book a/c against S. James	.18-3/4
Book a/c against D. Gladden	.25
Book a/c against Gabriel Martin	.06-1/2
Book a/c against Benjamin Jones, Sr.	1.50
Book a/c against J. H. Jones	2.75
Book a/c against John O'Neal	.25
Book a/c against John Martin	.06-1/4
Book a/c against Wm. Leonard	.50
Book a/c against Joseph Plasean	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Jesse Prichard	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Henry White	1.25
Book a/c against John Mulky	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Preston Harmon	1.50
Book a/c against Wm. Clark	.18-3/4
Book a/c against Wm. Martin	.25
Book a/c against Drury Logan	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Wm. Cobb	.12-1/2
Book a/c against James Williams	2.43-3/4
Book a/c against John Collins	.12-1/2
Book a/c against Wm. Logan	.18-3/4
	<u>18.62-1/2</u>

Total amount of the personal estate of  
John Howser, decd., April 10, 1833

Thomas Martin      Executors"  
Nancy Howser

"The Appraisment Bill of the estate of John Howser  
deceased returned on Oath May 29th 1833, The Notes  
and Accounts Annexed"

Appendix H

"SALE BILL OF JOHN HOWSER

DECD. ESTATE

"1833 - April 11th

Alpheus Howser	1 large bill	.06-1/2
do do	2 old plough shear, chains and other old irons	.43-3/4
John B. Harry	1 broad adz	1.20
Edward Bird	Hog tongs, 2 trowell, & hammers and sundry ass. irons	.99
Alpheus Howser	1 iron square	.39
Thomas A. Martin	1 jack, fore & smoothing plane	1.87-1/2
John B. Harry	3 Augers	.99-3/4
Alpheus Howser	1 foot adds	.11
Thomas Martin	Sundry old stone augers & hamers &c.	1.37-1/2
Jacob Collins	1 crow Bar (iron)	.90
Alpheus Howser	1 mattock	.53
Thomas Yearwood	1 old single tree	.06-1/4
Alpheus Howser	1 cross cut saw	3.06-1/4
Jacob Collins	2 young bulls	11.51
Thomas N. Martin	2 do do (do)	6.12-1/2
Alpheus Howser	1 /illegible/ wagon	4.12-1/2
Nancy Howser	1 carry all wagon & 2 beds	15.07-1/2
Jacob Collins	1 still, cap & worm, 9 hogsheads with cover & slake stand	62.00
do do	2 wooden _____ with mats	1.18-1/2
Alpheus Howser	1 barrel	1.00
Henry Howser	1 do weather backing of rum whiskey	1.00
John Wilson	1 apple mill	.50
Alpheus Howser	1 large saw	1.00
David Howser	2 choice hogs	
Henry H. Howser	5 last hogs in pen	2.75
Allen White	1 open /Illegible/ & barrel	.50-1/2

Alpheus Howser	1 <u>/illegible/</u> barrel	.64
Allen White	1 no beaded barrel	.02-1/2
Thomas N. Martin	1 cow & calf	6.73
John Moreland	1 small heifer	
	<u>/illegible/</u>	1.42
do do	1 do do	2.12
John Wilson for wife	1 do do	3.01
David Allen	1 lot rye @ 76 cts. pr bushel	7.98
James Moreland	1 old table	<u>.12-1/2</u>
		\$141.42-1/4

hire of 1 Negro woman named  
Jinny till the first Jany. next  
inclusive she is to have 2 suits  
of cloths & 1 pr. shoes ..... \$31.88

hire of Negro boy till the first  
Jany next--to have 2 suits of  
cloths & 1 pr. shoes 1.36

"Nancy Howser

"Total amount of sale of John Howser decd.... \$174.28-1/4

Signed

Thomas W. Martin  
Nancy Howser

Executors "

"The Sale Bill of the Estate of John Howser deceased  
returned on oath May 29th 1833

Benjamin Chambers, Ordinary"

Appendix I

"Last Will and Testament of Nancy Howser

"York District

"South Carolina

"WHEREAS, I Nancy Howser, the executrix of the last will and testament of John Howser (deceased) being in a debilitated state of health and knowing the frailty of mortality, I will that my Son Alpheus Howser be the executor of the last will and testament of said John Howser at my death, as the other executor, viz, Thomas Martin has removed from this state to Chickasaw County, Mississippi<sup>7</sup> and it was left to my discretion to apportion and make the minor children equal with those that had received a part of their dividends of the estate of said deceased heretofore and to enable him to distribute the amount received by each one I give the following statement:

"1st Alpheus Howser has received heretofore in good property about \$90.

"2d Thomas Martin in right of his wife \_\_\_\_\_, received good property to the amount of about \$100.

"3d F. A. Boston in right of his wife Fanny in good property about \$100.

"4th Hampton Howser received in good property \$65.

"5th James Noble in right of his wife Kathy received in good property about \$100.

"And I will that John Howser and Nancy Howser & S. W. Howser being minor or infant children receive out of the estate of said deceased \$100 each and also those that have not received that amount be the first to be made equal before there be a general dividend.

"July 8, 1840."

On August 24, 1840, Alpheus Howser was named executor of his father's estate by Benjamin Chambers, Ordinary of the Probate Court for York District.





Appendix J

Appraisement Bill of the estate of John Howser decd.

"Appraisement of the personal property of the Estate  
of John Howser decd. With the Will annexed.

"One Note on Elpheus Howser	\$6.00
Interest on do	.39
Balance of Note on Allen White & William Brown	.37-1/2
One Note on J. W. Thompson doubtful	50.00
Interest on do	2.62-1/2
One Note P. A. Jones doubtful	10.00
Interest on do	.17
One Note on Thomas White doubtful	1.81
Interest on do	1.15
One Note on Andrew Stewart due Nov. 1st	19.00
One Note on George Goforth due Jan. 1, 1841	45.56-1/4
Cash on hand	4.50
Sundry Accounts	3.50
One Cupboard	15.00
One Clock	10.00
One lot of China	6.50
One lot of Crockery & Shaving tools	1.50
One pine table	1.50
Two tables	4.00
One lot of jugs	2.00
One Watch	8.00
One looking glass	.37-1/2
9 Sitting chairs	11.50
2 Slates	.62-1/2
1 Bed and furniture	16.00
1 do do	10.00
1 do do	8.00
1 pine chest	2.00
1 Boxes	1.00
1 Rifle Gun	14.00
18 Bushels of Wheat	16.50
1 Bushel of Salt	2.00
1 lot of Barols and Boxes	1.50
1 flax Wheal	.50
1 lot of clean cotton	2.50
1 side saddle	6.00
1 man's do	1.25
1 lot of hogs	40.00

1 Black mare	20.00
1 Grey mare and colt	35.00
1 Sorel Mare	95.00
1 Sorel Colt	30.00
1 wind mill	5.00
1 Road Wagon	50.00
4 axes	2.50
1 lot of hoes and shovels	1.50
2 sythes and cradles	1.50
1 lot of plows	2.00
1 grind stone	.25
1 lot of tools	1.00
Some Smith tools	9.00
1 Cow and calf	12.00
1 Cow	12.00
1 heifer	7.00
1 Stear	4.00
1 lot barols	.50
3 Bushels of Rye	1.87-1/4
1 lot of gearing	4.00
first lot fodder 1400 bundles	7.00
second lot do	4.00
1 lot of corn, supposed to be 400 bushels	180.00
1 Cutting box	1.25
1 Bell and two coffee mills	.50
1 crobar	.60
2 Iron Wedges	.50
2 sets handle moles and pewter dish	.75
1 spining wheel	1.00
1 do do	.75
1 check real	.50
1 lot cooper ware	1.00
1 lot castings	8.37-1/2
3 pewter bason and dish	1.00
1 loom and impliments for weaving	5.00
1 lot of delf ladle and flesh fork	2.25
2 pair of cards and scisors	1.37-1/2
4 jars table cradle and dressor and Bed stead	2.50
2 /illegible/ of barols trays and bowl	1.75
1 Black Boy named Billy	150.00
1 do named Washington	700.00
1 black woman and child	500.00

1 _____ and candle stick	1.75
1 bead stead	1.00
3 gees	<u>1.00</u>
Whole amount	2,336.33"

"A. Hardin	)	
	)	
Henry Howser	)	Appraisers"
	)	
William Blalock	)	

"Appraisement Bill of the estate of John Howser decd.  
with the Will annexed entered on oath by Alpheus Howser  
Adm. now with Will annexed

"October 12th 1840

"B. Coy"

Recorded Book of Inventories &c.



Appendix K

"State of South Carolina, York District,  
Sale Bill for the Estate of John Howser Deceased  
November the 16th day 1840

---

<u>Articles</u>	<u>Name of the persons</u>	<u>\$ Cts.</u>
One plane	Thomas P. Black	1.00
One Ditto	Thomas P. Black	.25
One Ditto	John Etter	.25
One Ditto	Robert Hadley	.25
One Matax	Hamilton Wilson	.37-1/2
Two hoes & one single tree	Hugh Borders	.50
Three shovels	Robert Hadley	.62-1/2
One plane & two clevices	Edward Bird	.03-1/4
Two pitchforks	Ditto Bird	.03-1/4
Two Augurs	James A. Black	.25
One Ax	John L. Parker	.50
One Ditto	James A. Black	.50
One Ditto	Hugh Borders	.68
One Ditto	John L. Parker	
One Ditto	Jesse Coggins	.25
Two grind Stones	D. A. Fulton	.31-1/4
One Crow bar	Abraham /illegible7	.08-1/4
One Basket & contents	Joseph Whisonant	.81-1/4
One Bell	Daniel James	.43-1/4
One Sythe & Cradle	Henry Seapouck	.62-1/2
The Home tract to rent	John B. Dunn	115.00
The Kings Creek tract	Andrew Stewart	90.00
First Lot of Corn 25 bushel	John B. Dunn	9.75
2 Lots of Corn 25 bushel	Miss Futton	10.50
3 Lots of corn 25 bushel	Miss Futton	10.25
4 Lots of corn 25 bushel	John B. Dunn	10.00
5 Ditto            Ditto	Faitha Jones	9.50
6 "            "            "	Thomas B. Black	9.37-1/2
7 "            "            "	Thomas B. Black	9.37-1/2
8 "            "            "	John G. Dunn	9.37-1/2

Sale Bill Continued the 16 Day of November 1841

9 Lot of Corn or balance	Miss Futton at 35-1/2 per bu.	35.84-1/2
The rotten corn	Beece M. Rawask at 12-1/2 per bu.	.62-1/2
One half of the husks	Miss Futton	2.25
Balance of husks	John B. Dunn	2.50
One stack of fodder	John B. Dunn	3.06-1/4
second stack Ditto	John B. Dunn	1.50

3rd stack Ditto	Thomas P. Black	2.00
4th Ditto "	Faitha Jones	1.50
5 Ditto two stacks	William Broom	2.00
6 one stack Ditto	Thomas G. Black	2.00
7 Lot two stacks	William Broom	2.37-1/2
one wind mill	Gilbert Moss	5.87-1/2
One black mare	T. M. Hardin	10.00
One grey Mare	A. J. Hardin	20.00
One Sorrel Mare	Joseph R. Rawask	13.75
One sorrell Colt	James Williams	15.75
One grey colt	Hamilton Wilson	5.00
One half bushel	Calvin Whisnant	.03-1/4
One bedsted & chair	Miss Futton	.81-1/4
One Sadle & Blanket & bridle	Daniel A. Futton	2.25
One side Sadle	Pryer Wilkins	7.00
One coffee mill	Benjamin Hardin	.44
One Box and contents	Reese Rawark	.15-1/4
one barrel & bedsted and contents	Hamilton Wilson	.50
Black Smith tools	T. M. Hardin	10.28
One barrel & box & their contents	Richard Mackee	.50-1/4
One barrel & wry	John B. Dunn	3.00
One loom and harnes	Miss Futton	4.52
One sley	Miss Futton	.43
one ditto	Miss Futton	.42
Hired sley	Miss Futton	1.03
one pair of bars and /illegible/	Miss Futton	.36-1/4
One Reeb	John Etter	.50
One large wheel	William Black	.62-1/2
Second Large Wheel	John B. Dunn	1.00
One Small flax wheel	Miss Futton	1.00
two pair of wood cards	Samuel Morgan	.87-1/2
Churn & Cradle	Henry Howser	.25
One pine table	Hamilton Wilson	.37-1/2
one walnut cupboard	William Blalock	15.00
one set of china	Samuel Morgan	5.37-1/2
one pitcher	Samuel Morgan	.50
second pitcher	Ditto Ditto	.62-1/2
one large dish	F. D. Fulton	.68
one salt seler	Samuel Morgan	.12-1/2
one tin box	John L. Parker	.40-1/4
one block	A. R. Richard	8.00



one looking glass	Hamilton Wilson	.43-1/2
one feather bed & furniture	Frederick A. Boston	28.00
2nd bed & clothing	Samuel Morgan	15.00
3rd bed & clothing	Samuel Morgan	16.00
one road waggon	J. _____ W. Thompson	35.12-1/2
one log chain	Daniel Fulton	2.00
hains & harnes and Chains	William Blalock	1.31-1/2
one red cow and calf	William Brown	15.00-1/4
one white cow	Samuel Morgan	13.00-1/2
one hieffer	William Nesbieth	8.00
one steer	Martin Harlin	5.00
one pine painted table	Henry Howser	2.00
One small walnut table	William Darle	1.51
one pine chest	Jeremiah Blalock	1.01
one rifle gunn	Abraham Hardin	12.95
one large pot	Samuel Morgan	1.50
one 5 gallon pot	Frederick Boston	1.01
One Bed Chair	Reece Rawark	.25
One Drawing knife	Abraham Hardin	.62-1/2
Two pewter Basons	Henry Clarke	.56-1/2
Two Ditto	T. M. Hardin	.62-1/4
One Pewter Dish & plate	T. M. Hardin	.38
One pewter Dish	T. M. Hardin	.75
One Coffee Pot	Reece M. Rawark	.37-1/2
One Ditto Ditto	Frederick Morraw	.25
One Small pair Shares	T. M. Hardin	.37-1/2
Candle Stick & the contents	T. M. Hardin	.60
one latter chain	Henry Howser	.39
one smoothing iron	Frederick Boston	.62
one ditto ditto	Frederick Boston	.25
one small ditto	Ditto	.02
one lage 12 gallon pot	Benjamin Hardin	1.50
one small pot	Benjamin Hardin	.37-1/4
one large Kettel & Lid	Frederick Boston	.38-1/2
one small pot & hooks	Jacob Etter	.20
one mid oven & lid	Ditto	.52
one pan & lid	Benjamin Hardin	.12-1/2
one pan & two lid(s) one pot	John Wilson	.53
one tray & contents	R. Hadley	.75
One pot rack	Henry Howser	.56
One shovel & Ladle &c	T. D. Fulton	1.00
two meal bags	Jacob Etter	.50
two water pails	A. C. Gum	.50

one meal bag	Richard McKee	.43-1/2
one sythe & Cradle	John Wilson	.62-1/2
one lot of wheat 5 bushel	John B. Dunn \$1.25 per bu.	6.25
2 lot of wheat 5 bushel	T. D. Fulton \$1.20 per bu.	6.00
3 lot of wheat 5 bushel	John B. Dunn \$1.12-1/2 per bu.	5.62-1/2
4 lot of or balance 4 bushel	John B. Dunn 1.12 per bu	4.48

Sale Bill Continued The 17th day of November 1840

One Lot of Seedy Cotton	Robert Hadley - 03 per lb.	1.59
One Lot of Clean Cotton	Rebecca Carroll 12-1/2 per lb.	1.25
2 Lot of Clean Cotton	Rebecca Carroll 12-1/2 per lb.	1.25
One pine chest	Henry Howser	.25
two boxes	John B. Dunn	.25
One Small Gunn	John B. Dunn	.25
One lot of salt	Reece Rawark	.75
One hogshead	Thomas G. Black	.52
One Fiddle & contents	John B. Dunn	.31-1/2
One Slate	T. M. Hardin	.50
2nd State Small	T. M. Hardin	.18-3/4
One Dish & plates	Frederick Boston	.32-1/4
One Barrel & contents	A. C. Gum	.41
One Lot of teas & spoons	John Etter	.33-1/4
one pitcher	Reece Rawark	.19
One crock	A. C. Gum	.12-1/4
One Shugar Dish	Louisa Wilson	.56-1/4
One Lot Knives & forks	Frederick Boston	.26
One dresser	William Parker	1.00
One English reader & Lot	John Wilson	.15
Bible & testament & spelling book	T. M. Hardin	.50-1/2
One book paradise regained	James Clark	.30
One piece of Leather	Rebecca Carroll	1.56-1/4
One jug	John Wilson	.12-1/2
One crock & pitcher	T. M. Hardin	.21
One Stone jair	Hamilton Wilson	.26
one stone crock & contents	T. M. Hardin	.56
One stone jar	William Broom	.35
One large jar & jug	William Broom	.07
One large stone jair	Ditto	.45
one two gallon jug	T. M. Hardin	.12-1/2
one bottle of turpentine & cog	Jacob Etter	.11-1/4

Sale Bill Continued of 17 Day of November 1840

One watch	T. M. Hardin	\$ 5.50
One stand of Curtains	Samuel Morgan	2.12-1/4
One pine chest	Frederick Boston	.27
One pair of Bridle Bits	Frederick Morraw	.12-1/2
One large Dimejahn	Henry Howser	1.12-1/4
One Negro boy to hire out	T. M. Hardin	120.00
One Negro woman to hire out	T. M. Hardin & Robert Hadley	30.00
One lot of lime	William C. Black	4.00
One spotted Sow & eight pigs	Elizab Wilson	3.75
One red Sow and four piggs	Benjamin Hardin	2.31-1/2
One red spotted sow and two piggs	John Whisanant	2.50
one sow with pig	Robert Harden	2.12-1/4
first of two choise hogs	T. M. Hardin	5.12-1/4
2 Lot of two hogs	T M. Hardin	5.15
3 Lot of two hogs	Richard Eskridge	5.12-1/4
4 Lot of two hogs	Ditto Ditto	5.12-1/4
5 Lot of two hogs	Ditto Ditto	4.62-1/2
6 Lot of two hogs	Hamilton Williams	4.18-1/2
7 Lot of two hogs	Ditto Ditto	4.25
8 Lot of two hogs	Ditto "	3.18-1/4
9 Lot of two hogs	William Parker	3.06-1/2
10 Lot of two hogs	Reece Rawark	2.50
11 Lot of two hogs	Ditto "	2.50
12 Lot of two hogs	Ditto "	2.31-1/2
One bunch of headles	Jacob Etter	.34
Two siting Chairs	Henry Howser	.68-1/2
2 Lot of Chairs	Francis Adams	.88
3 Lot of Chairs	Elijah Wilson	.50
4 Lot of Chairs	Henry Howser	.52
5 Lot of Chairs	Francis Adams	.37-1/2
One Lot of Pork 65 lbs.	Frederick Boston at 10-1/4	6.66-1/2
One pickling tub	John B. Dunn	.06-1/2

Sale Bill Continued Nov. the 17th Day 1840

One lot of sweet potatoes	John White	.50
One lot of Irish potatoes	John Whisonant	.25
one lot of Zander	Robert Hadley	.25
ten ducks	T. M. Hardin	.50
one table & cloth	Jacob Etter	.13

two table cloths	T. M. Hardin	.50
one garden of cabbage	John B. Dunn	.62-1/2
one pair of fire doggs	John Wilson	1.00
one culling box	T. M. Hardin	1.47
one razor & stop	John Etter	.50
one flower barrel	T. M. Hardin	.14
6-1/2 bushel corn	John B. Dunn	2.30-1/2

January 1842

One Neg Boy hire until five November George Gofourth 49.00"

"The Sale Bill of the estate of John Howser, decd., returned to me on oath the 15th of March 1841. This sale was without any order from the Court of Ordinary and at the risk of the administrator of the will annexed.

B. Coy"

Appendix L

"Last Will and Testament of Christina Howser

"Will of Christina Howser

"South Carolina

"York District

"In the name of God Amen, I Christina Howser being of sound memory and disposing mind and memory, but mindful of the uncertainty of life do make, declare, and publish, the following as my last will and Testament in manner and form as follows to wit:

"1st That as soon after my decease as may be commenced, I desire my executors, herein after appointed, shall pay all my just debts I may owe and collect all debts that may be justly due me.

"2nd I will and bequeath to my daughter Mary Hoover two Hundred dollars in cash.

"3rd I will and bequeath to the three youngest children of my son John Howser, namely Polly, Nancy, and Doctor thirty-three dollars and thirty-three cents each, provided they claim the said legacy within three years after my death, if they do not, then the legacy, or legacies, shall go to my daughter Susanah Whisonant.

"4th I will and bequeath to my son-in-law J. N. Whisonant my negro man Wilson during his (J. N. Whisonant's) natural life, and at his death, then the said negro man Wilson shall go to my grandson Thomas P. Whisonant absolutely and unconditional in fee. Having some time since conveyed this negro man, Wilson, by deed of Gift to my son-in-law J. N. Whisonant, which deed of gift has been burned up in the home of said J. N. Whisonant, I hereby willed and bequeath the said negro man Wilson to my son-in-law J. N. Whisonant in full and perfect confirmation of said deed of gift.

"5th I will and bequeath to my daughter Susanah Whisonant the entire balance of my money, in cash, notes, bonds, or other demands, due me after my Executors shall have paid out the specific legacies of this will to her the said Susanah Whisonant.

"6th I will and bequeath to my three daughters, namely Mary Hoover, Lidia Dixson, and Susanah Whisonant, all my wearing clothes, Bed and bed clothes, side saddle, and household share and share alike.

"7th I do hereby constitute and appoint my friends William C. Black and J. N. Whisonant, the executors of this my last Will and Testament.

"Witnessed my seal and hand this, the 23d day of September 1853."

Christina Howser died in 1856, and her will was admitted to probate November 12, 1856.

Christina Howser, Case 34, File 1457, York County Probate Court, York, S.C.



## Appendix M

"Last Will and Testament of David Howser.

"I, David A. Howser, a citizen of York District, South Carolina, being of sound and disposing mind and memory, but weak in body, and calling to mind the uncertainty of life and being desirous to dispose of all such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to bless me with, I do make and ordain my last will, in manner following, that is to say:

"After collections of money due me from the government for services rendered, sufficient to pay all my just debts, and defray my funeral expenses, I give to my dear mother all the rest of my estate both real and personal of what nature or quantity so ever it may be, not hereinafter particularly disposed of, to hold and use during her lifetime after which all that remains is to be sold and equally divided between my brother John B., my sister-in-law Mary E. Howser, my sisters, Nancy Goforth, Jane Goforth, Eliza Henry, and Faithy L. Wilson.

"I give to my brother John one hundred dollars; and to my sister-in-law Mary E. Howser \$60.00 and my riding bridle; and to my sister Nancy Goforth \$50; and to my sister Jane Goforth \$50; and to my sister Eliza Henry \$50; and to my sister Faithy L. Wilson \$50, all of which is to be collected on notes which I now hold, either immediately after my decease or not until after peace between the Confederate and United States have been made, just as the majority of my sisters, sister-in-law and brother above mentioned may decide.

"I give to my sister Harriet Howell one dollar.

"I give to my niece Eliza Goforth \$100 to be paid after collection of my notes have been made.

"Should the provisions herein before made for payment of my debts and defraying my funeral expenses be insufficient for that purpose, such property as my mother may select may be sold out of her part of my estate, to supply that deficiency.

"And lastly, I do constitute and appoint A. W. Henry executor of this my last will and testament.

"August 2, 1864."

The Will of David R. Howser was admitted to probate on March 29, 1866.

David R. Howser, Case 52, File 2311, York County Probate Court, York, S.C.

Appendix N

"Last Will and Testament of Lawson Howell State of North Carolina, Cleveland County

"I Lawson Howell of Cleveland County, North Carolina, do make the following will & testament.

"Ist I make my wife Jane Howell my legal Executrix. I require her to pay my funeral expenses and all legal indebtedness. I give my wife Jane Howell in consideration of all Dowers my house and lot I now live in known as the old Methodist Parsonage in Kings Mountain. I give to my son John G. Howell my interest in all notes & accounts payable to Lawson Howell & Co. I give to my wife Jane Howell all my other personal property after she pays Muscogee McMackin five hundred Dollars, also Mary E. Pursley five hundred Dollars, and also Ellen Pursley five hundred Dollars. The above amounts not payable under 12 months after my death. I give to my two sons Aaron and John G. my plantation on Kings Creek in South Carolina once known as the Fathia Houser lands. Witnessed my hand & seal, March 11, 1907."

The will was probated September 19, 1911.

Found in records, Box 8, Package 39, Cherokee County Probate Clerk, Cherokee County Courthouse, Gaffney, South Carolina.



1790 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State South Carolina

Call No. \_\_\_\_\_

Appendix O  
Population Schedules, 1790-1880

County	City	Page	Head of Family	Free White Males		Free White Females	All Other Persons	Slaves
				16 & up incl. head of families	Under 16			
York		192	Henry Howser	2	2	3		
York		192	William McFarlin	1				
York		192	Theodore Russel	1	1	2		
York		192	Francis Jenkins	1		1		
York		192	Widow Jenkins	2		2		
York		192	James Millican	1	3	6		
York		192	Gibhart Moss	1	1	5		
York		192	David Allen	1	1	4		
York		192	William Champian	1	2	5		
York		192	George Tennel	1		1		
York		192	Richard O'Neal	1		2		
York		192	John Midleton	1	1	4		
York		192	Sampson Tomkins	3	2			
York		192	Michel Hogan	1	1	4		
York		192	Philip Logan	1	4	2		
York		192	Elizabeth Hunt, Jr.			3		
York		192	Elizabeth Hunt		2	3		
York		192	Thomas Martin	3	3	2		
York		192	Thomas Randolph	2		2		

State South CarolinaCounty YorkDistrict YorkCity YorkCall No. 142

Page	Head of Family	Free White Males					Free White Females					All Others	Slaves	Remarks
		Under 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 & Over	Under 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 & Over			
962	Col. Frederick Hambright		3	2		1	2		(C					
962	Henry Howser	3	1			1	2		(o					
962	James Quinn	5	1		1				(n					
962	William McCarter	2			1		2		(r					
962	James Saunders			1			2		(p					
962	James Henry					1	1	1	(a					
962	Doc. William Bratton			1			1		(s					
960	Mathew Moffett			1		1			(i					
960	Susanna Paxton		3				1		(n					
960	William Burns		1				1		(s					
960	James Watson		4			1		1	(n				3	
960	Isaac Enloe					1		2					4	
960	William Love	1	2	2		1	1		2	1				
960	James Countryman	2		1						1				
960	Robert Ferguson	1			1					1				
960	William Ferguson	1	1		1		1		1					
960	Patrick Wray	3	2	2		1	2		1	1				
960	Ashbel Enloe	1			1		2			1				
960	James Gilmore	4			1		1	1	1	1				Sheet Missing



P are	Head of Family	Free White Males					Free White Females					All Others	Slaves	Remarks
		Under 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 & Over	Under 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 & Over			
643	Henry Howser		2	2		1	1	1	1		1		3	
643	David Hambright			1					1					
643	James Henry, Sr.					1			1	1			5	
643	Gilbert Enloe	1			1		2			1				
643	John Bryson	2			1		1			1			1	
643	James Rodgers			1										
643	William Love		1	2		1		1	1		1		2	
643	Barbara Kinsey										1			
643	Daniel Nicely	2	1		1		3	2		1				
643	Aaron Watson				1				1				1	
646	John Mooney					1		1			1			
646	Robert Laney	1			1				1		1			
646	David Roark	1		1						1				
646	Arthur Gladden	2			1		4			1				
646	Frederick Jackson			1			1		1					
646	Isaac Lindsey		1	1		1					1			
646	Thomas Martin	3	1		1		1	1	1					
646	Nicholas Wisenhunt, Sr.					1					1			
646	James Donley					2					1		4	

## 1820 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State South Carolina

County York
~~xxx~~ Capt. Joseph Whisenhunt's Militia Call No

Company

Page	Head of Family	Free White Males						Free White Females					Foreigners not naturalized	Agriculture	Commerce	Manufactures	Free Colored	Slaves	Remarks
		Under 10	10-16	16-18	16-26	26-45	45 and over	Under 10	10-16	16-26	26-45	45 and over							
171	Henry Howser, Sr.						1					1				1		4	Stone mason & distillery
171	David Howser				1					1				1					
171	Edward Bird	3				2		2			1							2	Not in operation a distiller
171	Hannah Robinson								1	1	1								
171	Henry Howser, Jr.				1			1						1					
171	John Stewart	2	2	1	2		1	1	2	1		1		5					
171	Henry Wisenhunt	2	2	1	2		1	1	2			3		4		1		1	A distiller
171	John Wisenhunt	3				1		1	1	1				1					
171	John Caveny	1	1			1		3	1		1			1		2		i	Stone cutter
171	Henry Clark	1			1			1						1					
171	Martha Mullenau										2	1							
171	Michael Whisenhunt	1				1		2	1					1					
171	Frederick Hambricht	2			2	1	1		1	1		1		7				9	Not in operation a distiller
171	William Dickson				1			1						2				1	
171	David Hambricht	1				1		1	1	1		1		3				3	
171	Elijah Dover	1		1	2		1	1	1			1		3					
171	John Hambricht	2				1		2		1				1				1	
171	Josiah Hambricht	1	1			1		1			1			2					
171	Frederick Jackson	3				1		3						1					

# 1830-1840 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State South Carolina

County York

City

Call No.

Page	Head of Family	Free White Males										Free White Females										Slaves	Free Colored	Foreigners not naturalized						
		Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	Over 100	Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	40-50				50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	Over 100
377	Henry Howser	1	1				1								2	1			2									5		
377	Hannah Robertson																	1			1									
377	John Dover	3	1	1	1				1								2		1		1							2		
377	Mary Hambricht					1																1						2		
377	William Dickson		2				1								1	1	1			1										
377	David Hambricht				1																									
377	Elizabeth Hambricht		2	1																1										
378	Benjamin Griffin	3	2					1											1											
378	John Hambricht	1	1	1				1								2	1	1		1								1		
378	James Taylor	1	1	3				1							2	1	1		1		1									
378	Frederick Hambricht	1	1	1	2				1										1					1				9		
377	Henry Carroll				1										2					1										
377	Edward Bird		1	2	1			1									2				1							7		
377	Andrew Stewart				1														1											
377	David Scates				2										2					1										
377	Thomas Carroll	1	2				1								2	1				1										
377	Joseph Whistenant	1	1	2				1							1			2							1			1		
377	George Whistenant													1						1				1				2		
377	Nicholas Whistenant				1															1										
377	Elisha Harden				1										1					1										
377	Aaron W. Whistenant				1										1	1				1										
377	James Dover	1							1						1	1				1										
377	Aaron Inman				1	2		1															1					1		
377	K. Inman	1				1														1										
377	William Wright	1				1									1					1										

1840 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State South Carolina

County York

City

Call No.

Page	Head of Family	Free White Males								Free White Females										Slaves	Foreigners not Colored							
		Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100	Over 100	Under 5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-30			30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90-100
266	Henry Howser *	1	2		1			1							1	1	1	1	1	1							4	
266	Aaron Whisonant		1				1								1		2			1								
266	Jefferson Hambright						1								1			1									2	
266	Mary Logan															1					1							
266	Madison Hambright	1					1												1								2	
266	Frederick Hambright													1														9
266	John Hambright		1										1				1	1	1			1						1
266	Abner Hambright					1											1	1	1									
266	David Hambright												1				1				1							
266	Elizabeth Hambright			1	1	1											1	1			1							
266	James Mays	1				1																						
266	Susan Dickson				1												1	1	1	1	1							
266	Hannah Robinson																		1						2			
266	Sarah Dillingham	2	1	1	1												1	1			1						4	
266	R. Mullinax																				1							
266	Avaline Mullinax	1	1															1										
266	Mary Ware		1														1	2			1							
266	Elijah Dover				1									1														
266	Jonathan Stewart	2	1	2	2			1									1	2			1			1				
266	Martin Mullinax	1	1		1		1													1								
266	James Mullinax												1								1		2					
266	Henry Clark	1	1	2	1	1			1								1					1		1				
266	Henry Collins					1													1									
266	Robert Caveny		2				1												3		1						1	



## 1850 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State South Carolina County York Town Township Call No.     

Page	Dwelling Number	Family Number	Names	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation, etc.	Value - Real Estate	Birthplace	Married within year	School within year	Cannot read or write	Enumeration Date	Remarks
22	164	164	Faithy Howser	50	F			350	N. C.			1		
			Henry "	22	M				York Dist.					
			Cyrus "	17	M				York Dist.		1			
			Harriet L. Howser	14	F				York Dist.		1			
			David R. "	12	M				York Dist.		1			
			Faithy Jones	75	F				York Dist.					
22	163	163	Aaron W. Whisonant	48	M		Farmer	800	York Dist.					
			Martha "	48	F				York Dist.			1		
			Perry "	18	M				York Dist.		1			
			Pamelia "	14	F				York Dist.		1			
			Mary "	10	F				York Dist.		1			
			Martha "	10	F				York Dist.		1			
23	165	165	James Dillingham	24	M		Laborer		York Dist			1		
			Nancy E. "	26	F				York Dist					
			Mary J.	4	F				York Dist.					
23	166	166	Martha F. "	1	F				York Dist.					
			Archibald Dillingham	23	M				York Dist.					
			Jane	25	F				York Dist.					

# 1860 CENSUS — UNITED STATES

State South Carolina County York Town Antioch P.O. Antioch Call No.         

Page	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Names	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation, etc.	Value - Real Estate	Value - Personal Property	Birthplace	Married in Year	School in Year	Can't Read or Write	Enumeration Date	Remarks
239	146	146	Faithy Howser	55	F		Farmer (widow)	6,000	4214	Virginia					
			David Howser	21	M					South Car.					
238	145	145	James Dillingham	31	F		Farmer	2,000	480	N. C.					
			Emeline N. "	32	F		Domestic			S. C.					
			Mary J. "	13	F					S. C.					
			Martha Ann "	10	F					S. C.					
			William H. "	6	M					S. C.					
			Sarah E. "	4	F					S. C.					
			Artaly "	3	M					S. C.					
239	147	147	Absalam Chrismar	60	M			55		S. C.					
			Sarah "	35	F					N. C.			1		
			Jackson "	20	M					N. C.					
			Rachel "	20	F					Ga.					
			John B. "	17	M					N. C.					
			Susanah "	15	F					Tenn.					
			Mary "	10	F					N. C.					
			Julie "	8	F					Tenn.					
239	149	149	Mary Rogers	40	F			40		S. C.			1		
			Jane Rogers	19	F					S. C.					

State <u>South Carolina</u> County <u>York</u> Town <u>Township</u> Cherokee P.O. <u>Yorkville</u> Call No. <u></u>																		
Page	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Names	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation, etc.	Value - Real Estate	Value - Personal property	Birthplace	Father born	Mother born	Month born in year	Month married in year	School in Year	Can't Read or Write	Eligible to vote	Date of Enumeration
83	589	580	Howser, Faithy	68	F	W	Keeping House	600	400	S. C.								
			Hambright, James	22	M	W	Farm Laborer			S. C.							1	
			Aveny, William	51	M	B	Farm Laborer			S. C.						1	1	
			Aveny, Sarah	40	F	B	Farm Laborer			S. C.						1		
			Aveny, Sampson	11	M	B				S. C.						1		
			Aveny, Milley	9	F	B				S. C.								
			Aveny, Violet	7	F	B				S. C.								
			Aveny, Nancy	5	F	B				S. C.								
			Aveny, William	2	M	B				S. C.								
			Aveny, Fanny	55	F	B	Farm Laborer			S. C.						1		
83	588	579	Dillingham, James	45	M	W	Farming	1000	250	S. C.							1	
			Dillingham, Nancy	41	F	W	Keeping House			S. C.								
			Dillingham, Mary	23	F	W				S. C.								
			Dillingham, Martha	20	F	W				S. C.							1	
			Dillingham, Henderson	17	M	W	Farm Laborer			S. C.							1	
			Dillingham, Sarah	15	F	W				S. C.							1	
			Dillingham, Green	12	M	W	Farm Laborer			S. C.							1	
			Dillingham, Harriet	9	F	W				S. C.								
			Dillingham, Caroline	5	F	W				S. C.								



# 1870 CENSUS - UNITED STATES

State South Carolina County York

Town Cherokee

P.O. Yorkville

Call No.     

Page	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Names	Age	Sex	Color	Occupation, etc.	Value - Real Estate	Value - Personal property	Birthplace	Father born	Mother born	Month born in year	Month married in year	School in year	Can't Read or Write	Eligible to vote	Date of Enumeration
83	590	581	Howser, Robinson	42	M	W	Farming		300	S. C.							1	
			Howser, Mary	38	F	W	Keeping House			S. C.								
			Howser, Henry	16	M	W				S. C.								
			Howser, Robert	14	M	W				S. C.								
			Howser, Jane	12	F	W				S. C.								
			Howser, Elizabeth	10	F	W				S. C.								
84	591	592	Pelly, Lewis	25	M	B	Farm laborer			S. C.						1	1	
			Pelly, Elizabeth	22	F	B.	Keeping House			S. C.						1	1	
			Pelly, F.	20	F	B.	Farm laborer			S. C.						1	1	
150			Pelly, Benjamin	21	M	B.	Farm laborer			S. C.						1		
			Pelly, William	10	M	B	Farm laborer			S. C.						1		
			Pelly, Fowler	5	M	B				S. C.								
			Pelly, Elizabeth	3	F	B				S. C.								
			Pelly, Faithy	1	F	B				S. C.								
83	587	587	Dover, James	68	M	W	Farming			S. C.							1	
			Dover, Sarah	60	F	W	Keeping house			S. C.								
			Dover, Berry	21	M	W	Farm laborer			S. C.							1	
			Dover, Coretta	25	F	W				S. C.								
			Dover, John	10	M	W				S. C.								

Page	Dwelling No.	Family No.	Names	Color	Sex	Age prior to June 1st	Month of birth if born in census yr.	Relationship to head of house	Single	Married	Widowed	Divorced	Married in census year	Occupation	Miscellaneous Information	Cannot read or write	Place of birth	Place of birth of father	Place of birth of mother	Enumeration Date
46	469	469	Howser, Faithy	W	F	80					1			Keeping House		1	S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
46	470	470	Howser, John	W	M	26				1				Works on Farm			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Howser, Lou M.	W	F	26		Wife	1					Keeping House			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Howser, C. E.	W	F	4		Daughter	1								S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Howser, Margaret	W	F	1		Daughter	1								S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
46	471	471	Iseler, William	W	M	30				1				Works on Farm			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Iseler, Joanna	W	F	28		Wife	1					Keeping House		1	S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Iseler, Eliza	W	F	10		Daughter	1					Domestic Work			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Iseler, John W.	W	M	8		Son	1								S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Iseler, Eliza J.	W	F	5		Daughter	1								S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Iseler, James C.	W	M	1		Son	1								S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
45	462	462	Dillingham, James	W	M	53				1				Farmer			N.C.	N.C.	S.C.	
			Dillingham, Nancy	W	F	54		Wife	1					Keeping House			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Dillingham, Arthur	W	M	19		Son	1					Works on Farm			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Dillingham, Lethy	W	F	15		daughter	1					Attending School			S.C.	S.C.	S.C.	
			Wells, Williams	W	M	28		Border	1					Millwright			N.C.	N.C.	N.C.	
			Wells, Isaac	W	M	23		Border	1					Millwright			N.C.	N.C.	N.C.	



## Appendix P

Interviews with Mrs. James P. Jackson and Mr. William W. Howell

### A. Interview with William W. Howell

On January 10, 1974, William W. Howell, a grandson of Lawson and Martha W. Howell, was interviewed in his home at 606 Deerwood Drive, Columbia, South Carolina. Mr. Howell stated that he was the son of Aaron Howell, one of the eight children born to Lawson and Martha Whisonant Howell. The eight children were: Muscogee (born Nov. 8, 1868; died May 17, 1944), who married a McMackin; Aaron (born May 29, 1869; died June 30, 1948); Mary (born Dec. 9, 1870; died Jan. 7, 1941), who married a Pursley; two children, a boy and a girl, who were either still-born or died in infancy; Ellen, who also married a Pursley, and who committed suicide on July 31, 1911; John Grigg (born March 25, 1877; died the autumn of 1972); and Martha (born August 10, 1881; died in May 1882).

His paternal grandparents were married on Christmas Day, 1866, and Martha Howell died in 1881. Grandfather Howell had remarried, taking as his second wife Jane Goforth, who outlived him.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1. Recollections of the Stone House

William's father took him, as a young boy, to see the Howser House, which he and his brother, J. Grigg, had inherited from their father, and which had been built by one of their forebears. Since William was about 4 or 5 years old, this would have been in the early 1920s, after the brothers had sold the property to J. F. Jenkins. Mr. Howell recalled that the exterior of the stone house appeared much as it does today. However, he believes that the frame addition was much different. As he recalls, the frame kitchen was in a detached structure at the rear of the house. Access to the kitchen was by a wood walkway leading from the house's back doorway.

Mr. Howell, who is a builder and contractor, kindly drew two plans showing the relationship of the house, walkway, and kitchen, as he remembered them. These drawings are found in this report.<sup>2</sup>

---

1. Personal interview, William Howell with E. Bearss, Jan. 10, 1974.

2. Ibid.

## 2. The Howell Photograph

Mr. Howell also made available a photograph of the front elevation of the Howser House, ca. 1890. A copy of this photograph, the earliest yet discovered of the structure, is found in the Architectural Data Section of this report.

This photograph, made during the years Mr. Howell's grandfather owned the property, depicts the house with a shingled roof, a shed roof over the entrance to the basement, and other features which will be useful in the restoration.

### B. Interview with Mrs. James P. Jackson

On January 23, 1974, Mrs. James P. Jackson, a daughter of J. Grigg Howell, was interviewed in her home at 123 South Main, Clover, South Carolina. Mrs. Jackson lived with her parents in the Howser House from 1915 until late 1918 or early 1919. Before they moved onto the place, her father and her Uncle Aaron had used it as rental property.

#### 1. Recollections of the Stone House

Mrs. Jackson recalled that the exterior of the house is little changed from its original appearance. Her father, she told us, had reroofed the structure soon after they moved in. She was unable to recall a back porch, but she remembered her brother falling off the stone steps at the rear of the house.<sup>3</sup>

#### 2. Recollections of the Frame Kitchen-Dining Room

Mrs. Jackson recalled that the frame building at the rear of the house was not like the one there today. There was no porch. Her family used the structure for a combination kitchen-dining room. When the family sat down to eat, it was possible to look through the window(s) in the west elevation and see across the fields to the Lottie Goforth House. Her mother's range was near the south elevation.<sup>4</sup>

#### 3. Recollections of the Grounds

Her mother, Mrs. Jackson stated, had a "swept yard." West of and paralleling the house was a garlic bed. The well, which was not used for drinking water, was northwest of the house. She recalled a windlass.

---

3. Personal interview, Mrs. James Jackson with J. Walker and E. Bearss, Jan. 23, 1974.

4. Ibid.

Drinking water was secured from a spring in the hollow behind the kitchen. A path led from the back door of the house to the spring. There was a spring box at the spring, but no springhouse. Her mother's garden was near the spring.

Across the road from the front of the stone house were a big log barn and a frame corncrib.<sup>5</sup>

---

5. Ibid.





## BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Primary Sources

#### Manuscript Materials

#### County Records

##### Grants, Deeds, and Mortgages

Cherokee County Deed Book B, Cherokee County Courthouse,  
Gaffney, S.C.

Cherokee County Deed Book U, Cherokee County Courthouse,  
Gaffney, S.C.

Cherokee County Deed Book X, Cherokee County Courthouse,  
Gaffney, S.C.

Cherokee County Deed Book 2E, Cherokee County Courthouse,  
Gaffney, S.C.

Cherokee County Deed Book 2N, Cherokee County Courthouse,  
Gaffney, S.C.

Lincoln County Grant Book 1, Lincoln County Courthouse,  
Lincolnton, N.C.

Lincoln County Grant Book 3, Lincoln County Courthouse,  
Lincolnton, N.C.

Lincoln County Deed Book 16, Lincoln County Courthouse,  
Lincolnton, N.C.

South Carolina Grant Book, Vol. 54, South Carolina  
Department of Archives and History, Columbia, S.C.

York County Deed Book A, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

York County Deed Book B, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

York County Deed Book E, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book F, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book G, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book H, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book K, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book L, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book M, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book Y, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book Z, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book D4, York County Courthouse,  
York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book C5, York County Courthouse,  
York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book M13, York County Courthouse,  
York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book 15, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book 22, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Deed Book 29, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.  
York County Mortgage Book LL, York County Courthouse,  
York, S.C.

#### County Court Records

April 1784 Term of Court of Common Pleas and Quarter  
Sessions for Lincoln County, typescript, County Library,  
Lincolnton, N.C.

Case 2470, Box 37, H. P. Goforth et al. v Goforth et al.  
Court of Common Pleas, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

"Commissioner's Sale," Court of Equity, Case No. 116,  
York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Court of Equity, Case No. 116, York County, "Terms of  
Sale," York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Court of Equity, York District, Case No. 116, Petition  
of Faithy Howser et al., May 23, 1843, York County  
Courthouse, York, S.C.

Court of Common Pleas, February 1795, York County Court-  
house, York, S.C.

J. T. Howser et al., v Harriet Howell et al., File 16,  
Case 1229, Court of Common Pleas for York County, York  
County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Judgment Book, Court of Common Pleas, York District,  
Case 367, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Judgment Book, Court of Common Pleas, York District,  
Case 1058, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Judgment Roll No. 2890, Court of Common Pleas, Cherokee  
County Courthouse, Gaffney, S.C.

Minutes of Court of Common Pleas, April 1802, York District,  
York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

#### Probate Court and Wills

Estate of Henry Howser I, Case 23, File 960, York County  
Probate Court, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

Henry Howser II, Probated Estate, Case 70, File 3464,  
York County Probate Court, York County Courthouse,  
York, S.C.

Last Will and Testament of Henry Howser I, Case 23,  
File 960, York County Probate Court, York County Court-  
house, York, S.C.

Will of Henry Howser I, Case 23, File 960, York County  
Probate Court, York County Courthouse, York, S.C.

#### Plats

Plat of the Widow Howser's Dower, Case 116, Faithy  
Howser et al. v Robison Howser et al., York County  
Courthouse, York, S.C.

York County Plat Book 1, York County Courthouse,  
York, S.C.

#### Census Returns

First Census, York County, South Carolina,  
National Archives.

Second Census, York District, South Carolina,  
National Archives.

Third Census, York District, South Carolina,  
National Archives.

Fourth Census, York District, South Carolina,  
National Archives.

Fifth Census, York District, South Carolina,  
National Archives.

Sixth Census, York District, South Carolina,  
National Archives.

Seventh Census, Population Schedule, York District,  
South Carolina, National Archives.

Seventh Census, Schedule 4, Production in Agriculture,  
York District, South Carolina, South Carolina Depart-  
ment of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

Eighth Census, Population Schedule, York District,  
South Carolina, National Archives.

Eighth Census, 4th Schedule, Production in Agriculture in  
York District, South Carolina, South Carolina Depart-  
ment of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

Ninth Census, Population Schedule, York County,  
South Carolina, National Archives.

Ninth Census, 4th Schedule, Production in Agriculture,  
York County, South Carolina, South Carolina Department  
of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

Tenth Census, Population Schedule, York County, South  
Carolina, National Archives

Tenth Census, 4th Schedule, Production in Agriculture,  
York County, South Carolina, South Carolina Depart-  
ment of Archives & History, Columbia, S.C.

#### Letters

Allen, Tom, to Oswald Camp, Dec. 13, 1941, NA, RG 79.

Appleman, Roy E., to Regional Director, Region I,  
March 16, 1939, NA, RG 79.

Bullock, O. M., to Regional Landscape Architect,  
March 2, 1939, National Archives, RG 79.

Bullock, O. M., to Regional Chief of Planning, Region I,  
April 2, 1941, NA, RG 79.

Bursley, A. P., to Oswald Camp, April 6, 1941, files  
Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Bursley, A. P., to Oswald Camp, June 26, 1941, files  
Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Camp, Oswald, to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 6, 1937, files  
Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Camp, Oswald, to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 16, 1937, files  
Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Camp, Oswald, to Regional Director, Region I, Dec. 17,  
1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Camp, Oswald, to B. F. Flickinger, Jan. 12, 1938, files  
Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Camp, Oswald, to H. K. Roberts, Jan. 20, 1938, files  
Kings Mountain National Military Park.



Camp, Oswald, to Regional Director, Region I, March 20, 1939, NA, RG 79.

Camp, Oswald, to Regional Director, Region I, Feb. 6, 1941, NA, RG 79.

Camp, Oswald, to Regional Director, Region I, June 14, 1941, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Camp, Oswald, to Regional Director, Region I, Sept. 10, 1941, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Cotter, John, to Chief, Office of History and Historic Preservation, undated, files Historic Preservation--East.

Demaray, A. E., to B. F. Flickinger, Dec. 20, 1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Demaray, A. E., to B. F. Flickinger, Jan. 18, 1938, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Flickinger, B. F., to Regional Director, Region I, Dec. 8, 1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Flickinger, B. F., to Carl Russell, Dec. 23, 1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Flickinger, B. F., to Oswald Camp, Jan. 14, 1938, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Flickinger, B. F., to Oswald Camp, Jan. 25, 1938, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Fore, \_\_\_\_\_, to B. F. Flickinger, Oct. 28, 1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Fry, George, to Ben Moomaw, March 29, 1973, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Garner, John, to William Hendrickson, March 20, 1973, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Lapham, Samuel, to Oswald Camp, July 10, 1941, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Lattimore, Ralston, to Regional Director, Region I, Jan. 23, 1939, NA, RG 79.

Lattimore, Ralston, to Acting Regional Director, Region I, July 8, 1941, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Lisle, E. M., to Oswald Camp, Sept. 25, 1941, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Moomaw to Dave Thompson, April 2, 1973, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Moomaw, Ben, to Regional Director, Southeast, April 23, 1973, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Moomaw, Ben, to Dave Thompson, April 25, 1973, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Nash, Shepard, to G. H. Earp, Sept. 11, 1936, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Roberts, H. K., to Oswald Camp, Jan. 18, 1938, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Robbins, Mrs. M. Blanton, to Mike Adlerstein, November 6, 1973.

Russell, Carl, to B. F. Flickinger, December 11, 1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Russell, Carl, to Oswald Camp, Dec. 11, 1937, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Simmons, K. B., to Regional Director, Region I, Feb. 20, 1939, NA, RG 79.

Tillotson, M. R. to the Director, National Park Service, March 29, 1939, NA, RG 79.

Thompson, Dave, to Ben Moomaw, April 18, 1973, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Tolson, Hillory, to Regional Director, Region I, May 19, 1941, NA, RG 79.

Yancey, A. McLoud to Carl McFarland, Jan. 20, 1938, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

### National Park Service Reports

"Master Plan--Kings Mountain National Military Park and State Park, South Carolina," National Park Service, 1972.

Superintendent's Monthly Reports, Kings Mountain National Military Park, December 1937-May 1952, files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

Young, Rogers, "A Brief Description of the 'Old Stone House,' Located Within the Proposed Area of the Kings Mountain National Military Park, South Carolina," files Kings Mountain National Military Park.

### Inscriptions on Tombstones

Tombstone Inscriptions, Antioch Baptist Church, Cherokee County, S.C.

Tombstone Inscriptions, Howser Family Cemetery, Cherokee County, S.C.

### Secondary Sources

Memoirs of Georgia; Containing Historical Accounts of the State and Military, Industrial and Professional Interests, and Personal Sketches of Many of its People, 2 vols., Atlanta, 1895.

Reed, Elizabeth, "Howser Home Built in 1803," Rock Hill Evening Herald, June 9, 1949.

### Personal Interviews

Appleman, Roy E., with E. C. Bearss, Oct. 25, 1973.

Hambright, W. A., with E. C. Bearss, November 14, 1973.

Howell, William W., with E. C. Bearss, Jan. 10, 1974.

Jackson, Mrs. James P., with Jack Walker and E. C. Bearss, Jan. 23, 1974.

Moomaw, Ben, with E. C. Bearss, Nov. 15, 1973.

Norman, Mrs. Julia, with Jim Anderson and E. C. Bearss, Oct. 13, 1973.

Watterson, Mrs. Hood, with Jim Anderson and E. C. Bearss,  
October 13, 1973.

Wilson, Joe P. with E. C. Bearss, December 4, 1973.

#### Telephone Interviews

Howser, Mrs. Robert David, with E. C. Bearss, November 19,  
1973.

Sherer, David G., with E. C. Bearss, November 20, 1973.

Stowers, Mrs. F. H., with E. C. Bearss, November 23,  
1973.



ILLUSTRATIONS



Illustration 1.

Plat of the Widow Howser's dower, as surveyed by A. Hardin, June 6, 1843. Note location of house, outbuildings, still house, fences, roads, and watercourses.



Illustration 2.

Drawing of the Howser House complex, ca. 1929,  
as recalled by Mesdames Julia Norman and Hood  
Waterson.

Drawing courtesy of Jerry Bowen.

Was main road ?  
Went to Dillingham House

COW BARN

COTTON HOUSE

TENNANT HOUSE

HORSE BARN

CORN BARN

APPLE ORCHARD

WELL

OUT HOUSE

SPRING

ROAD

ROAD

ROAD

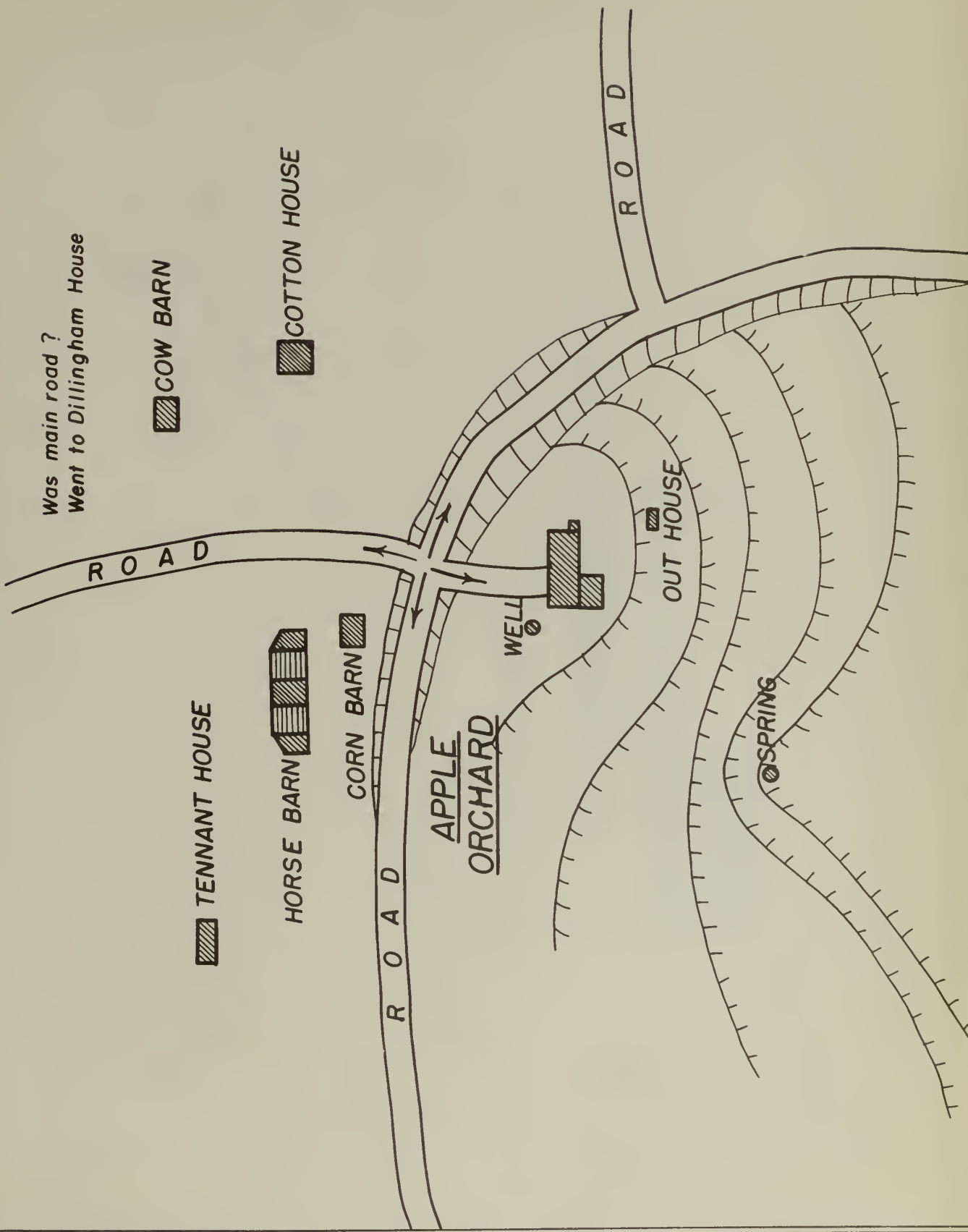
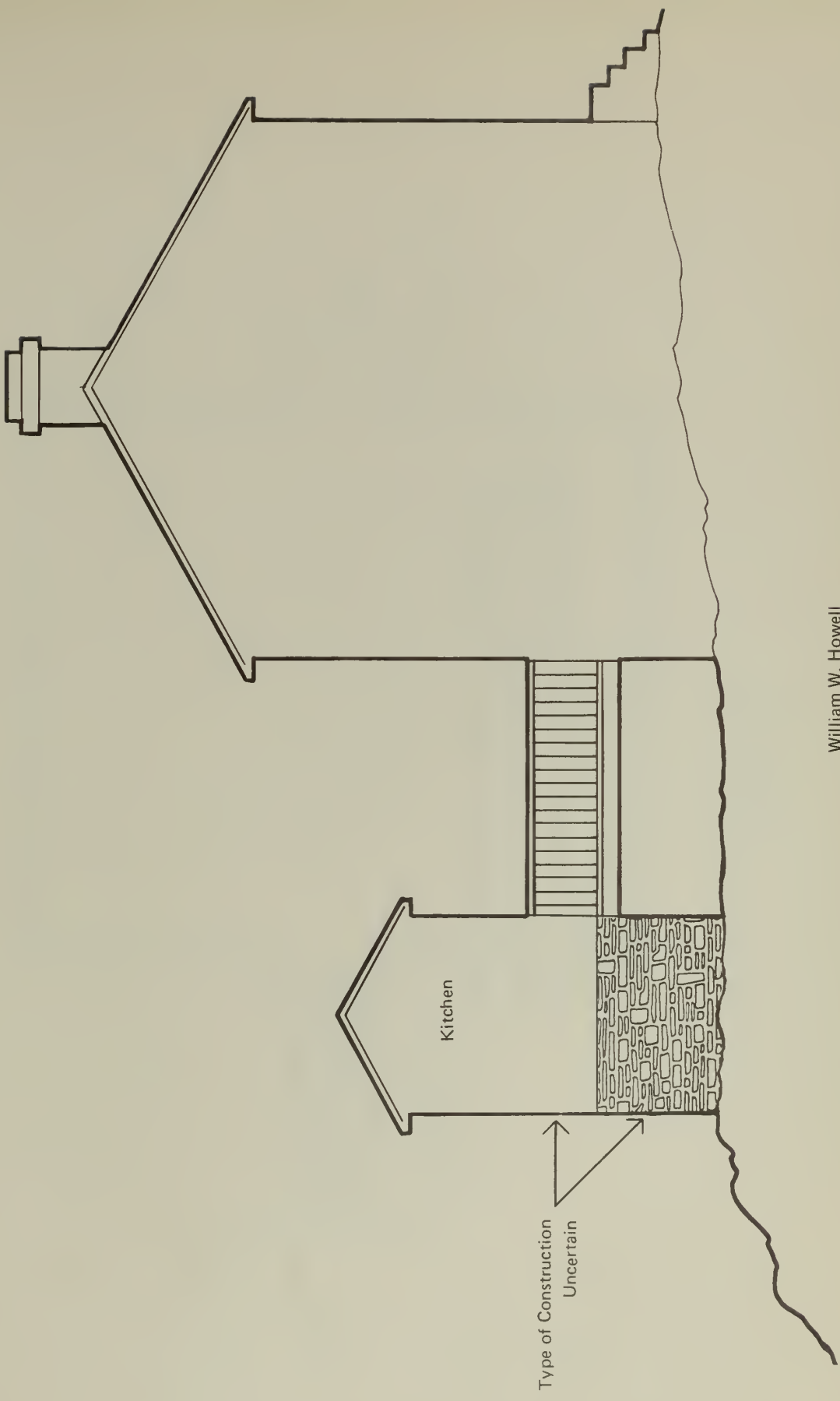


Illustration 3.

East elevations of stone house and frame kitchen-dining room as recalled by William W. Howell.

Drawn by William W. Howell, January 1974.



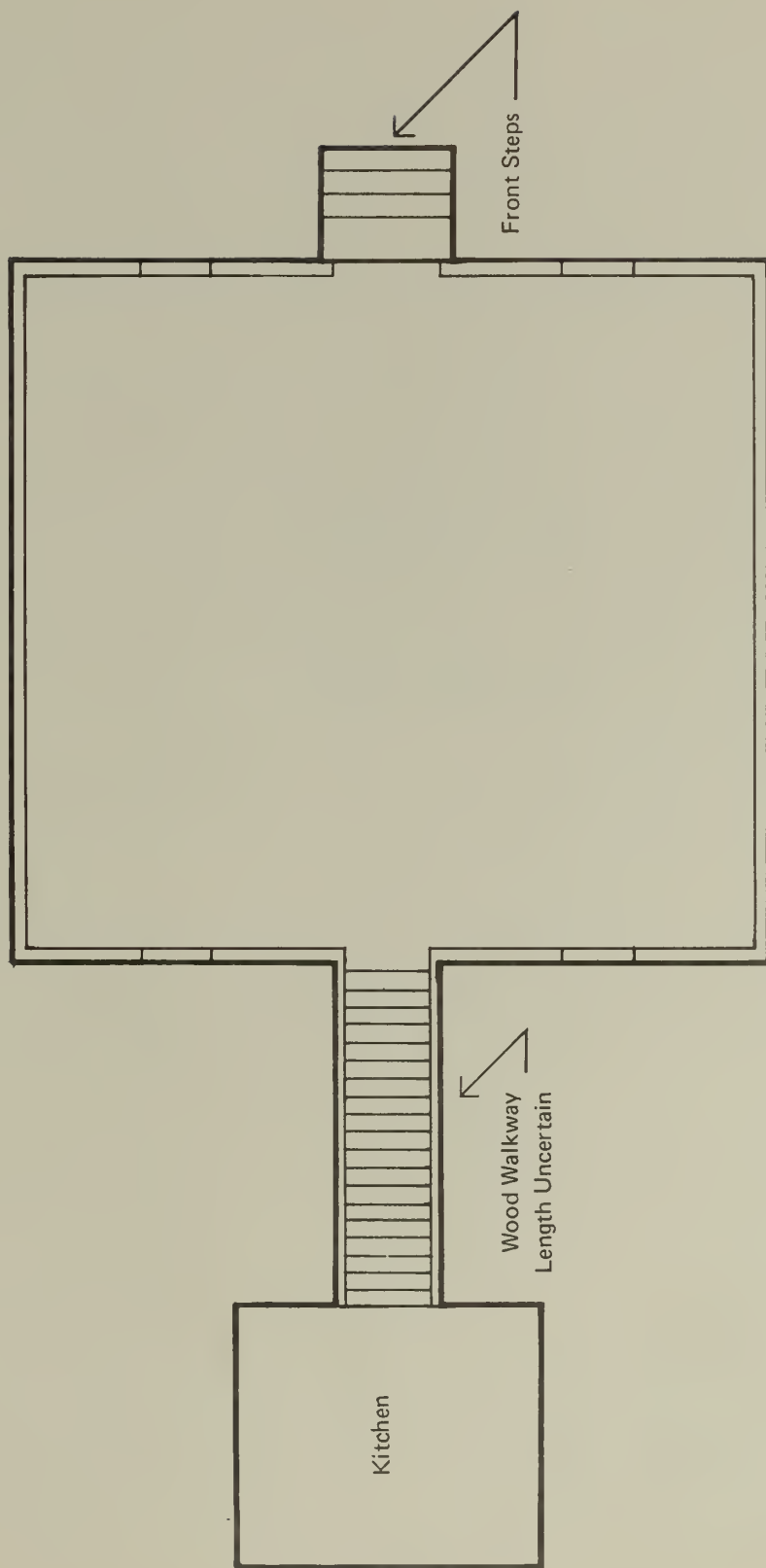
William W. Howell



Illustration 4.

Floor plan of stone house and frame kitchen-dining room as recalled by William W. Howell.

Drawn by William W. Howell in January 1974.



As I remember detached kitchen as a young lad  
William W. Howell



ARCHITECTURAL DATA

by

Michael Adlerstein

Illustration 1.

Ca. 1895. This is the earliest known exterior photograph of the Howser House. It shows the wood shingle roof, and one second-floor window with shutters. This is the only photograph which shows the large tree in the front yard.

Photo courtesy of William Howell, Shelby, N.C., grandson of Lawson Howell who owned the Howser House from 1884 to 1911.



## INTRODUCTION

The Howser House is located in Kings Mountain National Military Park, 1-1/4 miles east of the Visitor Center, and 1/4 mile east of County Road S-11-86.

The fine quality of its carpentry and stonework gives the structure a highly distinctive architectural character that is rare in the Piedmont Plateau today, and was even rarer in the early nineteenth century. The house was built by Henry Howser in 1803, using local outcrops of stone, and pine and walnut, which were also found abundantly in the Piedmont.

The master plan and interpretive prospectus of Kings Mountain NMP recommend that the structure be fully restored and exhibited as a "living farm." This recommendation has been modified by the park because Kings Mountain State Park is presently planning a "living farm" within 10 miles of the Howser House site.

The house, isolated in the woods, presents a vandalism problem. For security purposes, someone must live in or near the house. Additionally, the house has fallen into disrepair and the fabric is deteriorating. Immediate attention must be paid to repair of the roof, stabilization of the masonry work, and repair and/or replacement of rotted framing members.

Therefore, this report recommends the complete exterior restoration of the Howser House to its ca. 1825 appearance, and restoration of the terraces, retaining walls, well, and foundations of the outbuildings in order to more fully recreate the historic scene. Archeological investigation of the historic grounds is scheduled to commence shortly.

Relative to the stabilization of the structure, a limited amount of interior work is required and is detailed in this report.

Beyond this minimum effort needed to save the structure from further deterioration, alternatives are presented in this report for the treatment and use of the interior spaces of the Howser House. These alternatives are necessary, at this point, since it is not known how much funding will be made available in the future.



If funding permits, this report proposes the complete restoration and refurnishing of the first floor, and the adaptive restoration of the second floor as quarters for park personnel. It is suggested that the cellar be utilized as mechanical space.

The foundations of three of the outbuildings have been found, and this report recommends their restoration. Archeological investigation would provide further information on these, and, hopefully, other outbuildings.

Abutting the stone house is a wooden addition that dates to the early part of this century. This report presents findings resulting from investigation of this structure and recommends its razing, for reasons stressed later.

Illustration 2.

Ca. 1900. The wood shingle roof has been replaced with a metal roof with 16 seams. All the window shutters are gone. The level of grade has already been lowered and parts of the foundations are exposed.

Courtesy of Joe C. Wilson, Shelby, N.C.

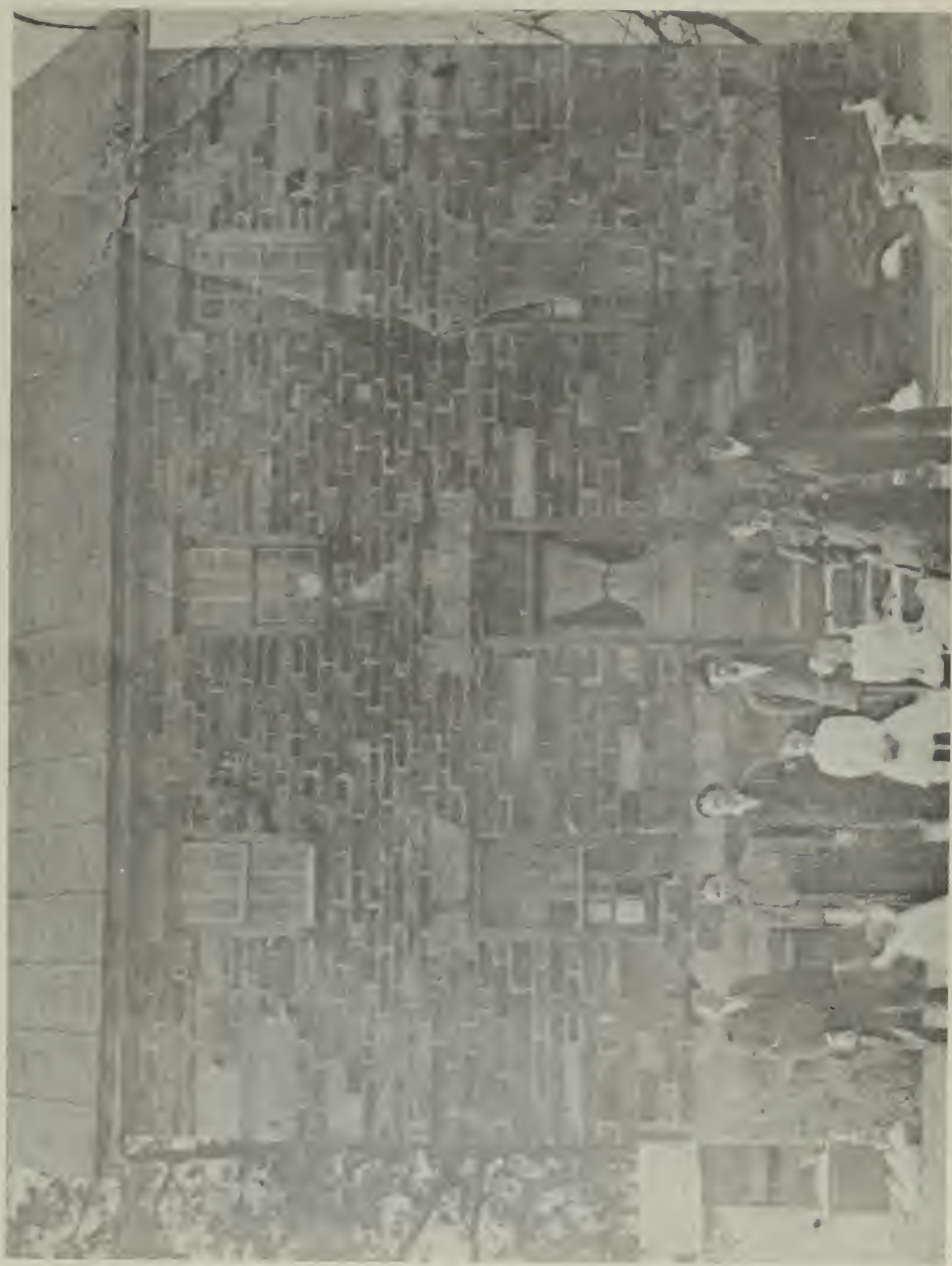
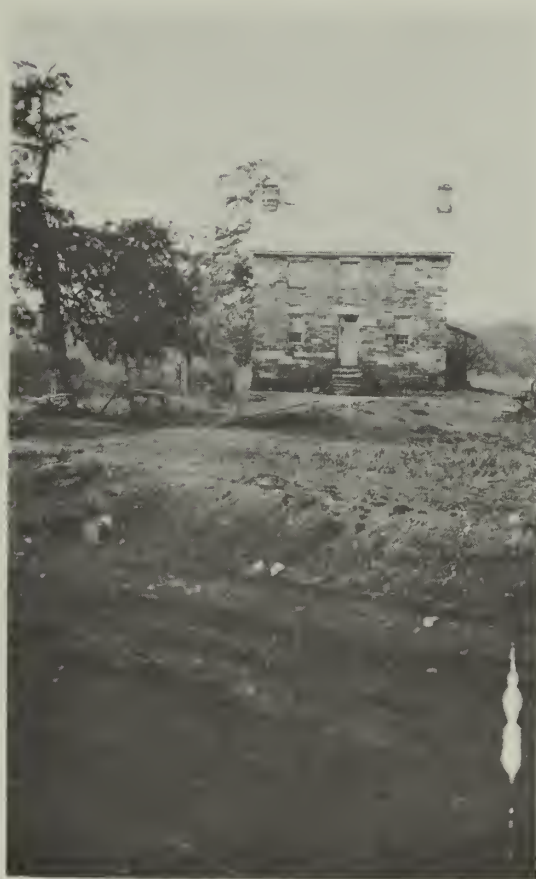


Illustration 3.

Ca. 1900. This photo shows the last resident of Howser House. The cellar window is boarded up.

Illustration 4.

Ca. 1900. The porch of the wooden addition is seen to the right of the house. The front yard has no shrubbery.



## I. EXISTING CONDITIONS: GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Howser House, on a hilltop in the Piedmont, is located about 130 feet from a dirt park road.

The hill has been graded into three terraces, each approximately 6 feet lower than the previous one. The terraces form a semicircle around the back and sides of the house. The first terrace, supported by a stone retaining wall, is approximately 25 feet wide. The stone house, wood addition, and well are located on this level.

The second and third terraces are retained by earth walls.

A stone-lined well, now filled in, is located about 20 feet to the east of the house. Perusal of historic photographs, ca. 1900 and 1930<sup>1</sup> clarifies that a wooden platform and square well head existed, but no remains of this structure have been found.

The locations of the privies have yet to be determined. Archeological investigations, scheduled to commence soon, are needed.

The only outbuilding foundations that have been found, without archeological excavations, are across the road from the house, about 260 feet to the east. The stone foundations of three structures were found,<sup>2</sup> supposedly a corncrib, barn, and a building whose use is unknown. Other outbuildings, documented in the historic data section of this report, have yet to be located.

The east door lintel is neatly inscribed<sup>3</sup> with deeply imbedded letters, as follows:

HENRY HOWSER - "Stone Mason"

\*JANE HOWSER      1803

---

1. See Illustrations Nos. 5 and 6.

2. See Illustration No. 28.

3. See Illustration No. 14.



Interestingly, the names, Henry Howser and Jane Howser, are in capital letters, stone mason is in italics and 1803 is less evenly spaced than the lettering. The numerals 1, 8 and 0 are of equal height to each other but the 3 is larger. Because of these peculiarities, it is possible the lintel was inscribed over a period of time, and thus the date should be considered an approximation.

The stone house is rectangular in plan, 31 feet 6 inches by 27 feet 4 inches. It is a two-story structure, with a basement under half its area and a full attic. The peak is +32 feet above the present grade and the two chimneys extend 3 feet 4 inches above that.

Investigation of the fabric produced evidence that the main structure was built in two stages. Because of the types of nails used in construction, it is known that the stone work, structural framing members, window frames, door frames, floors, and first-floor ceiling were built in the first stage which commenced around 1803.

The trim, plaster, mantels, and window and door flankers were added during the second stage, which took place an unknown number of years later.

There is a 3-inch projecting ledge running the length of the front and back sides of the house at a height of 7 inches below the first-floor level. This ledge seems to have been built to receive the ends of porch joists, since a 6-inch joist and 1-inch-thick planking would allow equal floor levels for the first floor and the porch, which perhaps were conceived to be full length on the front and back sides of the house. Preliminary archeological excavations have failed to find any evidence that these porches were ever built; however, further excavation is necessary to substantiate this.

On the west (back) side of the stone structure there is a wood frame addition that dates from approximately 1900 and served as a kitchen.<sup>4</sup> It consists of one room and a porch on the south side of the addition at the level of the first floor of the stone structure. Below the room is a storage area.

Until archeological excavations are completed, it will not be known if there was a separate summer kitchen or, if so, where it was located.

---

4. See Illustrations Nos. 12, 13, 16 and 27.



Illustration 5.

Ca. 1910. This photo shows the front yard, road, and path lined with decorative shrubbery. The well at the right has a square, wood superstructure and frame for the winch.

Illustration 6.

Ca. 1930. The house is unoccupied and deteriorating. The front yard is overgrown with weeds.

N.P.S. Photo.



Illustration 7.

Ca. 1935. All glazing has been broken.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 8.

Ca. 1935. Window frame, showing pegged joint.

N.P.S. Photo.



TITLE: The mask of command  
BARCODE: 120000417330  
DUE DATE: 04-11-11



# 03-21-2011 11:47AM  
Item(s) checked out to Smith, Zachary B1

TITLE: King's Mountain : the epic of the  
BARCODE: 120000380983  
DUE DATE: 04-11-11

# 03-21-2011 11:47AM  
Item(s) checked out to Smith, Zachary B1

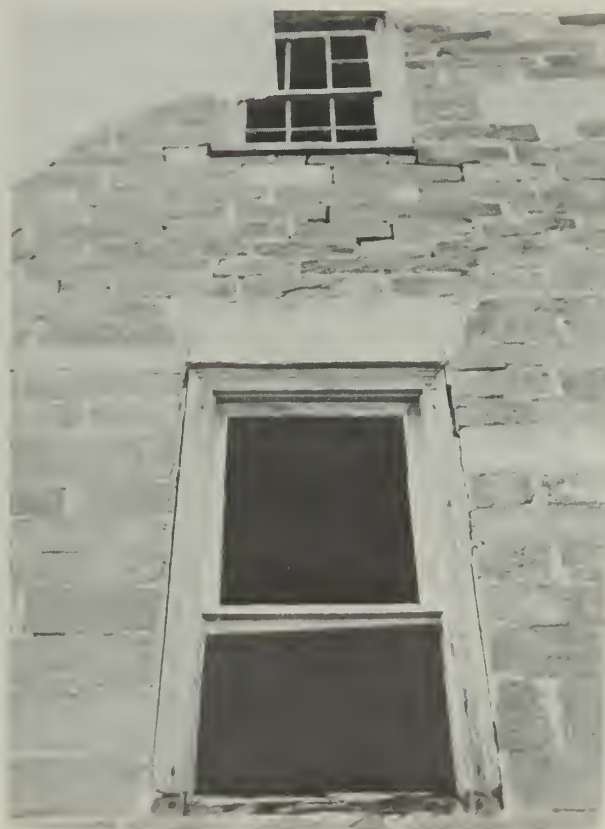


Illustration 7.

Ca. 1935. All glazing has been broken.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 8.

Ca. 1935. Window frame, showing pegged joint.

N.P.S. Photo.



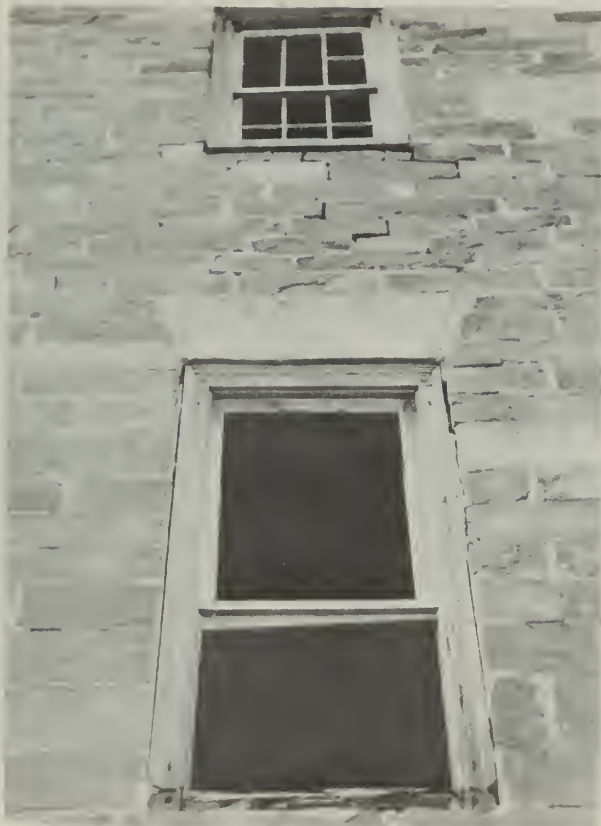


Illustration 9.

Ca. 1940. All windows are boarded up.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 10.

Photo taken in 1973 shows present condition of east wall. Note cracks above right first-floor window.

N.P.S. Photo.







## II. EXISTING CONDITIONS: EXTERIOR OF STONE HOUSE

### A. Foundations

The foundations of the house are of snecked rubble field-stone (granite and sandstone). They are a fairly uniform 2 feet 6 inches thick and extend up from the present grade from 6 inches to 2 feet 9 inches.

The historic grade extended up to the top of the foundations; however, subsequent grading around the house flattened the area to form a terrace. This grading exposed about 1 foot of foundation wall all around the structure. At the northwest corner enough material was removed to expose the top of the spread footing.

The spread footings, a very rare construction detail for any early nineteenth-century structure, extend out from the foundation wall 2 feet and are 11 inches deep. They were found only at the northwest corner,<sup>5</sup> extending down both the north and west walls on their exterior sides. Archeological excavations will determine if they were built under all four walls of the Howser House.

The foundation walls are in good condition, with no major cracks or obvious settling. At the south corner of the west wall a few stones are out of place.

Clay was the binding agent used for all the original stonework, with no hardening agent. Incredibly, some clay still remains in the joints, although much has been washed and blown out. The joints have been pointed several times with Portland cement mortar and are in fair condition.

The placement of the building on the top of a hill, resulting in excellent drainage, has helped avoid serious foundation trouble.

### B. Basement Steps, South Wall

The steps consist of four stones with treads averaging 1 foot 2 inches and risers averaging 7 inches. The lowest step is 2 feet 3 inches inside the outer face of the wall and the top step ends 2 feet 8 inches outside the building.

The historic grade was 1 foot 1 inch higher than the top step, which implies that at least one step was removed when the grading was done. The steps are in good condition.

---

5. See Illustration No. 13.

Illustration 11.

South wall. Coursed rubble stonework in good condition.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 12.

Partial west wall. Note cracks above first-floor window. Wood addition at left.

N.P.S. Photo.





#### C. Front Entrance Steps,<sup>6</sup> East Wall

The front stone steps, loosely set on a rubble base, consist of two massive stones, approximately 3 feet by 4 feet by 8 inches each, and three smaller stones, approximately 1 foot by 4 feet by 8 inches each.

The top two steps are from the earlier historic period, while the bottom three steps were added when the grade was lowered. As a result of this grading, the base of the steps has deteriorated seriously.

#### D. Back Entrance, West Wall

The back door leads out to the porch of the wooden structure. The door sill is 3 feet 6 inches above present grade. The back steps were probably similar to the front ones, although the stones are now missing and only part of the base remains.

#### E. Exterior Walls

The exterior walls of the stone house are 2 feet 3 inches thick below the ledge, and 1 foot 5 inches thick from the ledge to the plate.

Two patterns of stonework were employed in the walls. The mason used a random ashlar pattern on the east and west walls (front and back) and coursed rubble (locally called "grapevine")<sup>7</sup> on the gable walls. All four walls have both flag and end grain surfaces, with the larger flags used at the corners as quoins.

The quoins vary in size up to 1 foot 6 inches by 4 feet by 7 inches, with sharp, true corners.

The east (front) wall has the finest stonework with straight horizontal and vertical joints. The courses vary from  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches to 8 inches high.<sup>8</sup>

Two courses below the second-story window, on both east and west sides, are five evenly spaced putlogs, approximately 6 inches by 6 inches. From comparison of the original mortar in the putlogs with mortar from other joints in the wall, it was determined

---

6. See Illustration No. 15.

7. See Illustration No. 11.

8. See Illustration No. 10.

that the putlog stones were built into the original wall; therefore, there were never porch rafters built into the stone wall.

All window lintels are light-colored granite, cut to a "keystone lintel" shape, 11 inches by 3 feet 8 inches.

The east and west door lintels are rectangular, 1 foot by 4 feet 3 inches, and extend 5 inches beyond each side of the door opening. The east door lintel has two grouted grooves cut into the lintel<sup>9</sup> in imitation of the keystone lintels of the windows. These grooves seem to form a keystone lintel over the door of the same proportions as those over the windows.

The east door lintel is inscribed as shown earlier.

Some of the window lintels have settled<sup>10</sup> as the mortar has weathered away.

The west wall is similar to the east wall, although the stonework is not as well executed. The horizontal and vertical joints are not as straight and the stones are not as evenly cut.

The west wall window lintels are the same as those on the east wall.

The west door lintel is the same size as that on the east door, although it does not have the grouted grooves or an inscription.

The stonework of the west wall is in generally good condition. There is local failure over the lintels on the south windows, first and second floor, due to water entering the building and causing the lintels to settle.

The major areas of roof damage, which have recently been patched, were the northwest and southwest corners of the structure. The damage was caused by a roof leak which was further complicated by the collapse of the rafters in these two areas. At present, the roof is adequately secured to keep out water.

The two gable walls, of coursed rubble, have no visible cracks. The north wall has bowed out about 4 inches at its midpoint, starting about 10 feet above grade up to the peak. This is possibly due to an earthquake in the area in the early 1900s.

---

9. See Illustration No. 14.

10. See Illustrations Nos. 10 and 12.



The flexibility of the clay bonding agent used in the walls prevented more serious damage. The wall seems to have stabilized and evidence was found that it has not bowed out further since the last residents moved out around 1930. The last residents took off the ceiling cornice and racked it up to fill the 4-inch gap between the ends of the ceiling boards and the plastered stone wall. This cornice still fills the gap neatly.

The chimneys are intact, although there is practically no clay left in the stonework.

#### F. Exterior Cornice

The wood cornice is boxed around the extensions of the attic joists.

The fascia and soffit are rotted in places, but the bed mold is in good condition.

The gables have a cornice that is not from the historic period and which is badly rotted--it should be removed.

#### G. Roof

The present roof is sheet metal and is in fair condition. It dates to at least 1900, since it appears in the earliest historic photographs from that period.

The original roof was probably of wood shingles, although no remains of this roofing material were found.

Some handsawn shingle lath is still in use; however, it has been moved several times and it is impossible to determine the original spacing. Early cut nails were found in this lath.

Most of the existing rafters are original and are in good condition. They are fully described in the structural systems section of this report. Because of the replacement and movement of the lath, it was impossible to determine original lath spacing from nail holes in the top side of the rafters.

#### H. Exterior Doors

None of the three entrances to the structure--one door to the basement and two doors to the first floor--have survived. The basement and south first-floor doors are missing all parts of the frame.

The east first-floor door has the original head in place, imbedded in the masonry. The masonry opening, which is 3 feet 9 inches by 8 feet 1 inch is larger than the west door opening which is 3 feet 9 inches by 6 feet 9 inches. Historic photographs from the 1920s show the East door with a four-light transom. The original interior flankers and architraves are in place.

The surviving head is black walnut.

#### I. Windows

At present there are no sash in the window openings. Early twentieth-century photographs<sup>11</sup> show that the second floor sash was 6 lights over 6 lights single hung, and the first floor was 9 lights over 6 lights single hung.

A few of the window heads and sills are still in place. They were embedded in the masonry, and the jambs were mortised and tenoned and then fastened with pegs to the head and sill. Nails found in the window frames were early cut nails, dating the window frames from the first construction stage.

The remaining jambs are black walnut.

#### J. Shutters

All shutters are missing. Pintle holes in the remaining window frames show that shutters did exist.

#### K. Chimneys

There are two chimneys, one at each gable, their mass projecting into the interior of the house.

Above the roof line, both chimneys are of equal dimensions, each being 4 feet 8 inches by 2 feet 7 inches with a 3-inch belt course  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches below the top of the chimney.

Almost all the original clay bonder has been washed out of the chimneys and extensive pointing is needed.

---

11. See Illustrations Nos. 2 and 3.

Illustration 13.

Northwest corner of house. Note exposed spread footing.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 14.

Front door inscription.

N.P.S. Photo.



Illustration 15.

Front steps, showing two original steps and three additional steps below. The wall exhibits three styles of stonework--coursed ashlar above, coursed rubble below ledge, and rubble foundation near grade.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 16.

South wall of wood addition.

N.P.S. Photo.









### III. EXISTING CONDITIONS: INTERIOR OF STONE HOUSE

#### A. Cellar and Crawl Space

The cellar is 15 feet by 22 feet 10 inches. At the entrance on the south, four stone steps lead down to a fairly level dirt floor that is +3 feet below grade. There are two windows, one facing east and one facing west, without frames or sash.

Three walls are unplastered coursed rubble masonry; the fourth is the side of the unexcavated crawl space which forms a wall about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet high, mostly of unplastered clay and shale. Numerous holes have been dug in the clay wall by treasure hunters.

The south wall, which has the chimney stack in its center, corbels out 1 foot 5 inches to form the two hearths on the first floor. This corbeling is of coursed rubble, like the rest of the basement, and is in very good condition.

The first floor framing and flooring are exposed.

The rough oak joists are hewn flat on the bottom over the basement area to allow more headroom. This is not done in the crawl space.

The crawl space measuring 12 feet by 22 feet 10 inches, occupies about half the area of the structure, on the north. There is approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet of headroom below the first-floor joists.

#### B. First Floor

The first floor consists of three rooms, each with a fireplace. The main room, Room 101, measures 16 feet 6 inches by 23 feet 11 inches and was the center of the house. It originally served as kitchen, living room, and dining room.

Opening onto this main room are both first-floor exterior door entrances, stairs to the second floor, a closet under the stair landing, two windows, and the main fireplace (F-1 on drawings).

The southeast room, Room 102, measures 10 feet 2 inches by 10 feet 7 inches and is entered from Room 101. It has a fireplace (F-2 on the drawings), one window opening, and a closet.

The southwest room, Room 103, measures 13 feet 2 inches by 10 feet 7 inches and is also entered from Room 101. It contains one fireplace (F-3 on drawings) and one window opening.

#### 1. Room 101

All the walls of this room are covered with whitewashed plaster. The exterior walls were given three coats of plaster on masonry, and the partition walls were given three coats on split wood lath.

This lath, which is also called nogging because of the way it was used, forms a solid slat partition between studs, as shown on the drawings. There is very little space between lath members for keying of the plaster, so the bond depends upon the rough texture of the lath surface and the surface of the studs. The lath members vary in size from 2 inches to 3 inches by  $3/4$  of an inch.

The studs of the partition wall are two-by-fours at  $\pm 2$  feet 6 inches o.c. Each stud has been plowed out on each of its 4-inch sides  $1/4$  of an inch square to receive the narrow ends of the lath. The faces of the studs were scored to give the plaster a key.

The scratch coat was mud and straw and animal hair, evenly scored to receive the finish coat.

The partition walls have major cracks due to the collapse of the joists below them and water entering from the roof.<sup>12</sup>

All the window and door openings were framed in identical architrave moldings, a few of which survive.

All interior molding and trim is of southern pine and is nailed to blocking set into the masonry with cut nails. As mentioned earlier in this report, there is evidence that the shell of the house, including the masonry, floor joists, rafters, ceiling, floors, and door and window frames were built first, using early cut nails.

The molding and trim was nailed with machine cut nails of a different and later date. The time span between these two phases of construction has not been determined.

---

12. See Illustration No. 20.

The flooring is tongue and groove, 3/4-inch pine boards, of random widths from 5 to 7 inches. A section of flooring in front of the hearth has been replaced, possibly due to a fire. The flooring is nailed directly to the joists with hand cut nails. The flooring is in fairly good condition, but has rotted away completely near the stairs. Its original finish is unknown.

The ceiling is made of beaded 3/4-inch tongue and groove boards, of random widths from 8 to 11 inches.

The dog-leg stairway had a half landing, 3 feet 1 inch by 7 feet 4 inches. Each run was supported by three stringers. The bottom run had nine risers and the top run had seven risers. Under the landing was a closet with a door opening inward.

At present, only the upper run of the stairs survives.<sup>13</sup> The balusters, handrail, newel posts, and landing have all disappeared and the lower run of stairs has collapsed and deteriorated. However, the original appearance and details are preserved in historic photographs.<sup>14</sup>

The fireplace had a decorated mantel and breast boards, parts of which have survived but which are in deteriorated condition. The jack arch over the fireplace is intact, although in need of stabilization.

The fireplace originally had squared-off sides with a depth of 1 foot 6 inches. The opening is 5 feet by 5 feet 6 inches with a stone jack arch spanning the 5 foot 6-inch opening. At some later date, probably when the fireplace ceased being used for cooking purposes, a lining of stone was added to each side within the fireplace, resulting in sloped sides. The stone hearth measures 2 feet 1 inch by 8 feet.

## 2. Room 102

The flooring and ceiling are the same as that of Room 101. The ceiling is in good condition. The floor has a bad sag on the west side due to a structural collapse of the joists below it.

The fireplace is 1 foot deep and the opening is 4 feet 10 inches wide by 3 feet 5 inches high. It is spanned by a stone jack arch and had a mantel and breast board, which have disappeared. The stone hearth measures 9 inches by 5 feet 4 inches.

The plaster in this room is in poor condition.

---

13. See Illustration No. 19.

14. See Illustrations Nos. 17 and 18.

Illustration 17.

Ca. 1900. Room 101. Stairs and closet under landing.  
Note that door of closet opens inward.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 18.

Ca. 1900. Room 101. Fireplace and mantel in good  
condition.

N.P.S. Photo.



Illustration 19.

Room 101. Present condition.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 20.

Room 101. Present condition of partition wall.  
Note flooring and joists missing in Room 103 and  
sag in floor in Room 101.

N.P.S. Photo.







### 3. Room 103

Because of a roof leak, most of the floor and ceiling (which were constructed similarly to that in Rooms 101 and 102) is in ruins and the wall plaster is badly deteriorated.

The fireplace, resembling that in Room 102, is in need of restoration. One breast board is in place. The wall plaster stops at the shadow of the mantel that was once there.

#### C. Second Floor

The second floor was divided into one large room on the north and two smaller rooms on the south, similar to the first-floor arrangement. There is one fireplace on the north wall (F-4 on drawings).

The partitions between the three rooms are gone; however, plaster lines on the walls and nails in the flooring give an indication of the dimensions of the three rooms. The size and swings of the doors were determined from the scars they left on the floor.

The main room was 14 feet 5 inches by 24 feet.

The southeast room was 12 feet 3 inches square.

The southwest room was 11 feet 6 inches by 12 feet 3 inches.

The partitions were of 1-inch board with 2 foot 10-inch openings for doors that opened into the smaller rooms.

The attic over the two smaller rooms had a plank floor which served as a ceiling for the smaller rooms, which were probably bedrooms. The larger room had no ceiling, leaving the roof structural system exposed. At present, an 8 foot by 10-foot area in the southeast corner of the floor boards is still intact. It is composed of 1-inch pine boards, random widths, from 8 to 12 inches, nailed with early cut nails.

The north wall has a fireplace that is 1 foot 4 inches deep. The opening is 2 feet 6 inches wide by 2 feet 8 inches high. It is entirely plastered at present, although this is not the original plaster. The entire face and sides of the fireplace were plastered and the trim removed at some unknown time.<sup>15</sup> The present

---

15. See Illustration No. 24.

Illustration 21.

Second floor, east wall.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 22.

Second floor, south wall.

N.P.S. Photo.



BILL CURRY  
ATHLETIC  
DEPARTMENT  
J. S. Man

Illustration 23.

Second floor, west wall.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 24.

Second floor, west wall.

N.P.S. Photo.







plaster in the fireplace exhibits almost no smoke or ash stains, so the fireplace must have been rarely used after replastering.

The hearth was formed by simply boxing out a 4 foot 8 inch by 1-foot area and filling the cavity with sand. The load rests directly on the board ceiling of the first floor, which is further supported by two 2 inch by 4-inch nailers.

The window, window framing, and plaster in the vicinity of the stairwell and the southwest corner are badly deteriorated due to the roof leaks previously mentioned.<sup>16</sup>

Most window frames and architraves are missing.

Most of the chair rails and baseboards are in place. They are both of the same profile as those of the first floor, as shown on the drawings.

The plaster is badly cracked in places.<sup>17</sup>

#### D. Attic

The attic was partially floored. The flooring extended from the eastern wall to the western wall on the southern side of the house in an area measuring 24 feet by 12 feet 6 inches. It was fastened with early cut nails.

#### E. Structural Systems

The first-floor joists are white oak logs, running east-west, hand hewn flat on top to receive the flooring, and hand hewn flat on the bottom in the cellar area to increase headroom.

The joists average 8 inches in diameter at +2 feet o.c.

A 12 inch by 12-inch beam, brought in through the basement door, was added from gable end to gable end, after the historic period, to support the joists at their midpoints. In recent years, water entering at the roof has caused failure of most joists and the beam.

The second-floor structural system consists of a summer beam running east-west, spanning 24 feet 1 inch, and joists running north-south.

---

16. See Illustration No. 23.

17. See Illustrations Nos. 21, 22, 23.

The joists to the south of the summer beam span 11 feet 2 inches, and to the north the span is 16 feet 2 inches. The joists and beam are machine sawn southern pine.

The beam is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 1 foot 3 inches and is laid flat with the joists mortised and tenoned into it. The ends of the beam and joists are built into the exterior walls with a  $\pm 5$ -inch bearing.

The joists are  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches at  $\pm 2$  feet 6 inches o.c. The joist-beam connection is mortise and tenon, pinned together with a 1-inch diameter oak peg.<sup>18</sup>

The stairwell is boxed out with a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $8\frac{1}{2}$ -inch joist header and a  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $8\frac{1}{2}$ -inch beam. All connections are mortise and tenon with an oak peg.

The attic framing consists of a summer beam running north-south and joists running east-west.

The summer beam is a hand hewn, southern pine, 8 inches by 1 foot, laid flat. It spans 25 feet 10 inches between chimneys and its ends are built into the chimneys.

The joists extend from the summer beam through the masonry, projecting out 1 foot beyond the exterior walls on the east and west. The joists are hand hewn pine,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 8 inches at  $\pm 2$  feet 1 inch o.c. They rest on a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch by  $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch sill that is embedded in the stone wall.

The connections of the joists to the summer beam are mortise and tenon, with a 1-inch oak peg, similar to the connections of the second-floor framing members.

At the four corners there are outlookers that extend into the masonry 10 inches. They receive the cornice return and barge board.

The ends of all joists and outlookers are beveled on top to match the slope of the roof and receive the last purlin.

The roof framing consists of rafters, collar beams, plates, and purlins.

The plates are on the east and west walls. They are 4 inch by 6-inch pine members, laid flat, set 1 inch into the attic joists. They run the length of the building 31 feet 6 inches,

---

18. See Illustration No. 26.

stopping flush with the outside of the end outlookers. They sit partially on the masonry wall, between joists, and overhang the wall by 4 inches.

The rafters are each 15 feet 10 inches long, and are 5-inch diameter pine logs with the two vertical sides hand hewn flat. They meet in a half-lap with an oak peg and their ends are notched to receive the plate.<sup>19</sup>

The collar beams are 8 feet 4 inches long between rafters. They are 4½-inch diameter pine logs with the two sides hand hewn flat. They are located 5 feet 4 inches above the attic joists. The connection between the collar beams and the rafters is a half-lap dovetail with an oak peg.

Almost all the roof structure is original except obvious additions in the southwest and northwest corners where the roof has leaked and the structure has rotted.

The original purlins measure 1 inch by 2 inches. There are many additional purlins and the original purlins have been removed and re-used so the original spacing is not known.

The attic and roof structural systems are in fair condition. Some rafters, joists, and purlins are rotted through in the areas where the roof has leaked.

There is evidence of powder post beetle infestation in the rafters, collar beams, and joists, and an investigation of individual members will be necessary to determine the extent of the damage.

#### IV. EXISTING CONDITIONS: EXTERIOR OF WOOD ADDITION

##### A. Foundations

The foundations at the two western corners consist of a flat stone placed on grade. The eastern corners are supported on the ledge of the stone structure.

---

19. See Illustration No. 25.

Illustration 25.

Detail of rafter-plate-attic joist  
connection.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 26.

Detail of joist-summer beam connection.

N.P.S. Photo.







#### B. Exterior Walls

All exterior surfaces are covered with lap siding, 1/4 of an inch thick,  $\pm$ 7 inches to the weather. It is badly deteriorated at the ground level;<sup>20</sup> however, the first-floor siding is in good condition.

#### C. Porch

The porch, which is 5 feet by 16 feet 6 inches, faces south. It is covered by an extension of the main roof which cantilevers out 5 feet 10 inches.

It had, as support, two posts plus the sill of the stone structure. The posts were four-by-sixes and were located at the southwest corner and the midspan. The corner post has completely disappeared and the post at midspan is badly deteriorated.<sup>21</sup>

The porch has two door openings to the wooden structure and one door opening to the stone house.

The porch flooring was random 1 foot by 5 feet by 3/4-inch boards. They are badly rotted.

#### D. Windows

There are two window openings, each 2 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 10 inches. The sash are gone, but evidence shows they were single hung with a fixed upper sash.<sup>22</sup>

#### E. Doors

There are three door openings, two of which still have doors. The two door openings to the porch are each 2 feet 10 inches wide by 6 feet 8 inches high. The doors consist of tongue and groove random vertical boards 3/4 of an inch by  $\pm$ 6 inches, with three horizontal battens each 3/4 of an inch by 4 inches on the interior. They each have two 10-inch strap hinges.

The third door opening was on the north, to a porch that no longer exists. From this porch the stairs descending to grade

---

20. See Illustration No. 16.

21. See Illustration No. 16.

22. See Illustration No. 27.

Illustration 27.

Wood addition, west wall.

N.P.S. Photo.

Illustration 28.

Barn foundation across the road from Howser House.  
It is overgrown with shrubbery.

N.P.S. Photo.



were located. No remains of this porch were found, although it is seen on an historic photograph.<sup>23</sup>

The door is missing, but the opening is 2 feet 10 inches wide by 6 feet 8 inches high.

#### F. Roof

The roofing is sheet metal. It seems to be the original material and is in fair condition.

### V. GENERAL CONDITIONS: INTERIOR OF WOOD ADDITION

#### A. Crawl Space

The crawl space, which was a storage area, measures 13 feet 8 inches by 15 feet 11 inches. It has a dirt floor and is 3 feet 6 inches high at the east and 4 feet 6 inches high at the west. There is an opening at the west, measuring 2 feet 8 inches by 4 feet 3 inches, that might have contained a door at some time. The siding of the northern wall is missing.

#### B. First Floor

This level consisted of one interior space, the same size as the crawl space below it. It has 3/4 of an inch tongue and groove flooring, 2½ inches to 3½ inches wide. The exterior siding and the studs are exposed.

The ceiling is 1-inch boards, 5 inches to 9 inches wide. A brick chimney, 1 foot square, is set in the ceiling, hung by metal straps from the attic framing. This chimney is near the northwest corner of the room.

#### C. Structural System

The structure is basically a western platform frame. The corner posts are four-by-sixes and the openings are framed in four-by-fours. All other vertical framing members are two-by-fours at +2 feet o.c. Diagonal bracing (two-by-fours) is set against the corner posts, and the nearest studs are cut through to allow the bracing to be continuous from plate to post.

The attic is framed in two-by-sixes at +2 feet o.c.

The roof rafters are two-by-sixes at 2 feet o.c.

---

23. See Illustration No. 6.



## VII. RESTORATION ALTERNATIVES

### A. General

This section of the report will present various alternatives for restoration of the Henry Howser House, and my recommendation for restoration if funding permits. The presentation of alternatives is necessary to allow for changes in the planning of Kings Mountain NMP before restoration commences. As of this date, restoration is neither scheduled nor funded.

There is an immediate need for preservation stabilization work on the structure to stop deterioration of the house and prevent injury to visitors who wander there. This work should be started as soon as possible, regardless of the future plans for the house.

### B. Stabilization of Interior and Exterior of the Structure and Grounds

The following is the work that must be performed if more complete restoration work is not possible:

1. Point all the stonework on the house and retaining walls of the terrace, and replace missing stones.
2. Replace all rotted roof rafters.
3. Patch or replace deteriorated roofing sheets.
4. Install the new first-floor framing system, as shown on the drawings, while retaining the existing joists that are structurally sound. To install the new framing members, the first-floor partitions must be carefully jacked up, the flooring pattern noted and floorboards removed, the new joist system installed, and the floorboards and partitions reset.
5. Install a new metal angle to support the second-floor joists along the north wall, as shown on the drawings. Carefully remove the second-floor floorboards and install a new plywood subfloor which will act as a diaphragm and prohibit further bowing of the north wall. Then reinstall original floorboards.
6. Reestablish historic grade at the structure. At present the footings are not adequately covered and the drainage would improve if the grade were raised back to its original level. This work must follow archeological investigations.

If funding permits work to proceed beyond the minimal stabilization, alternatives for restoration are:

"A". Stabilization of interior and exterior of structure, and complete restoration of exterior facades of structure and grounds.

"B". Complete restoration of exterior and grounds, and complete restoration of entire interior of structure.

"C". Complete restoration of exterior and grounds, and adaptive restoration of entire interior as a residence for park personnel.

"D". Complete restoration of exterior, grounds, and first floor of interior, and adaptive restoration of cellar and second floor as a residence for park personnel.

C. Alternative "A": Stabilization of Interior and Exterior of Structure, and Complete Restoration of Exterior Facades of Structure and Grounds

The work required is as follows:

1. and 2. Same as in stabilization work.
3. Replace sheet metal roof with wood shingles on wood lath. Flashing and oakum to be used as shown on drawings.
- 4., 5. and 6. Same as in stabilization work.
7. Raze wooden addition. This is necessary because it is structurally unsound and its restoration would be expensive and in conflict with the historic period of the Howser House.
8. Clear the terraces, path to the house, and the area around the foundations of the outbuildings of all bushes so the vista is clear, as shown on the drawings. Restore retaining walls of terrace and foundations of outbuildings.
9. Install new stone steps at the west entrance and stabilize the steps at the eastern entrance.
10. Install new door and window frames, doors, and sash for all door and window openings.
11. Install new shutters and replace rotted cornice members.

12. Block chimneys, as shown on drawings, and repoint.

13. Install fire detection and suppression systems.

14. Install intrusion alarm system.

D. Alternative "B": Complete Restoration of Exterior and Grounds and Complete Restoration of Entire Interior

1. through 14. Same as in Alternative "A".

15. Remove cracked or loose plaster on all exterior walls, and replaster with new plaster to match existing in color and composition.

16. Carefully repair first-floor interior partitions to preserve as much original plaster as possible. Patch where necessary using plaster of the same color and composition as original.

17. Stabilize fireplace and jack arches over F-1, F-2, and F-3. Install new mantels and trim as shown on drawings.

18. Install new stair and closet as shown on drawings.

19. Install new baseboards, chair rails, and ceiling moldings wherever original trim is badly deteriorated or missing.

20. Replace rotted floorboard where necessary.

21. Install new board partitions and doors on second floor, where shown on drawings.

22. Conduct complete paint study and repaint in historic colors.

E. Alternative "C": Complete Restoration of Exterior and Grounds, and Adaptive Restoration of Entire Interior as a Residence for Park Personnel

1. through 18. Same as in Alternative "B".

19. Install new baseboards, chair rails, and ceiling moldings wherever original trim is badly deteriorated or missing, except in southeast room which will have a tile wainscot, base, and floor.

20. Replace rotted floorboards where necessary.

21. Install modern kitchen equipment, vinyl tile floor, wainscot, and base in southeast room of first floor. Plumbing and electrical services will come from cellar through floor.

22. Install modern bathroom equipment in southwest room. Plumbing and electrical service will come from cellar through floor.

23. Install modern electrical outlets and lighting fixtures in all rooms.

24. Construct modern closets to second floor southeast and southwest rooms.

25. Install electric baseboard heating in all rooms except cellar.

26. Provide underground entrance, below the wall footings, for electricity, telephone, and water, and underground exit for sewage.

27. No air conditioning will be provided in this restoration. If the resident or the park staff find it necessary, window units can be installed in the west windows.

F. Alternative "D": Complete Restoration of Exterior and First Floor of Interior, and Adaptive Restoration of Cellar and Second Floor as a Residence for Park Personnel

1. through 20. Same as Alternative "B".

21. Construct new gypsum board partitions on second floor to enclose the stairwell, a bedroom, a kitchen, and a bathroom, as shown on the drawings.

22. Install new electric baseboard heating on first and second floors.

23. Provide electric outlets and lighting on second floor.

24. Bring all utilities to second floor of residence from cellar through closet in southeast corner of southeast room on first floor.

25. No air conditioning will be provided in this restoration. If the resident or the park staff find it necessary, window units can be installed in the west windows.

#### G. Restoration Recommendation

The author recommends Alternative "D" for the adaptive restoration of the Howser House. This alternative allows the house to function as a furnished exhibit of an early nineteenth-century home, while the resident would provide built-in security.

In this way, the fabric of the main floor of the house will remain unaltered and the majority of the architectural features of the house will be seen by visitors.

The second floor, which at present is an empty shell with no partitions at all, will be adaptively restored, with minimal damage to the original fabric. As shown on the drawings, all mechanical and electrical service will come from the cellar through the first floor closet in the southeast corner of the house.

Non-historic vehicles should not be allowed within visual range of the Howser House site during visitation hours. Visitor parking should be located in some area that will not intrude on the historic scene.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICEPACKAGE ESTIMATING DETAIL  
(PRELIMINARY)

REGION Southeast	PARK Kings Mountain National Military Park
PACKAGE NUMBER	PACKAGE TITLE Restoration of Henry Howser House -- Stabilization

(If more space is needed, use plain paper and attach)

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST
1. Repoint stonework		\$20,000
2. Replace roof rafters		1,000
3. Replace roof		6,000
4. First floor framing		2,000
5. Repair second floor		3,500
6. Restore to historic grade		1,000
7. Miscellaneous mat'l & service		<u>4,500</u>
TOTAL		\$38,000
ALTERNATE "A"		
1. Repoint stonework		\$20,000
2. Replace roof rafters		1,000
3. Replace roof		6,000
4. First floor framing		2,000
5. Repair second floor		3,500
6. Restore to historic grade		1,000
7. Raze wooden addition		500
8. Clear & restore		3,000
9. Stone steps		300
10. Door & window frames		5,000

SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES		CLASS OF ESTIMATE		
		<input type="checkbox"/> A Working Drawings	<input type="checkbox"/> B Preliminary Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> C Similar Facilities
Proj. Type		Totals from Above		
		B & U		R & T
52	Museum Exhibits			XXXXX
55	Wayside Exhibits			XXXXX
62	Audio-Visual			XXXXX
89	Ruins Stabilization			XXXXX
91	Construction			
92	Utility Contracts			XXXXX
ESTIMATES APPROVED (Signature)		(title)	(date)	
		237		

POST PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESTIMATES AND SCHEDULING ON BACK OF FORM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PACKAGE ESTIMATING DETAIL

(PRELIMINARY) continued

REGION Southeast	PARK Kings Mountain National Military Park
PACKAGE NUMBER	PACKAGE TITLE Restoration of Henry Howser House -- Stabilization

(If more space is needed, use plain paper and attach.)

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST
11. Shutters & cornice		4,000
12. Block chimneys		22,000
13. Fire detection		5,000
14. Intrusion alarm system		5,000
15. Misc. mat'l & service		<u>11,700</u>
TOTAL ALT. "A"		\$90,000
<u>ALTERNATE "B"</u>		
1. Through 14. same as Alt. "A"		\$90,000
7. Repair plaster		3,000
10. Repair first floor walls		3,000
17. Stabilize fireplace		6,000
18. Stairs & closet		4,000
19. Baseboards & etc.		3,000
20. Replace floorboards		2,000
21. Partitions & doors, second floor		2,000
22. Painting		2,000
23. Misc. mat'l & service		<u>4,000</u>
TOTAL ALT. "B"		\$119,000

SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES		CLASS OF ESTIMATE		
		A <input type="checkbox"/> Working Drawings	B <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Plans	C <input type="checkbox"/> Similar Facilities
Proj. Type		Totals from Above B & U R & T		
52	Museum Exhibits			XXXXX
57	Wayside Exhibits			XXXXX
62	Audio-Visual			XXXXX
59	Ruins Stabilization			XXXXX
91	Construction			
52	Utility Contracts			XXXXX
ESTIMATES APPROVED (Signature)		(title)		(date)
		238		

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## PACKAGE ESTIMATING DETAIL

(PRELIMINARY) continued

REGION Southeast	PARK Kings Mountain National Military Park
PACKAGE NUMBER	PACKAGE TITLE Restoration of Henry Howser House -- Stabilization

(If more space is needed, use plain paper and attach)

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST
<u>ALTERNATE "C"</u>		
1. Through 18. same as Alt. "B"		\$106,000
19. Replace baseboards & etc.		3,000
20. Replace floorboards		2,000
21. Modern kitchen equip.		6,000
22. Modern bath equip.		3,000
23. Electric wiring		5,000
24. Modern closets		1,000
25. Elect. baseboard heat		5,000
26. Underground entrance		3,000
27. Misc. mat'l & service		4,000
TOTAL ALT. "C"		\$138,000
<u>ALTERNATE "D"</u>		
1. Through 20. same as Alt. "B"		\$106,000
21. Partition second floor		1,000
22. Elect. baseboard heat		5,000
23. Electric wiring, second floor		3,000
24. Utilities to second floor		3,000

SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES		CLASS OF ESTIMATE		
		A <input type="checkbox"/> Working Drawings	B <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary Plans	C <input type="checkbox"/> Similar Facilities
Prof. Type		Totals from Above B & U R & T		
52	Museum Exhibits			XXXXX
55	Wayside Exhibits			XXXXX
62	Audio-Visual			XXXXX
89	Ruins Stabilization			XXXXX
91	Construction			
92	Utility Contracts			XXXXX
ESTIMATES APPROVED (Signature)		(title) 239	(date)	

POST PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESTIMATES AND SCHEDULING ON BACK OF FORM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## PACKAGE ESTIMATING DETAIL

(PRELIMINARY) continued

REGION Southeast	PARK Kings Mountain National Military Park
PACKAGE NUMBER	PACKAGE TITLE Restoration of Henry Howser House -- Stabilization

(If more space is needed, use plain paper and attach)

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST
25. Window a. c. units		2,000
26. Misc. mat'l & service		<u>2,000</u>
TOTAL ALT. "D"		\$122,000
<u>SUMMARY</u>		
Stabilization		\$ 38,000
Alternate "A"		90,000
Alternate "B"		119,000
Alternate "C"		138,000
Alternate "D"		122,000

## SUMMARY OF CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES

## CLASS OF ESTIMATE

☐ A  
Working  
Drawings☐ B  
Preliminary  
Plans☐ C  
Similar  
Facilities

Proj. Type		Totals from Above B & U	R & T
52	Museum Exhibits		XXXXX
55	Wayside Exhibits		XXXXX
62	Audio-Visual		XXXXX
89	Ruins Stabilization		XXXXX
91	Construction		
92	Utility Contracts		XXXXX
ESTIMATES APPROVED (Signature)		(title) 240	(date)

POST PROFESSIONAL SERVICES ESTIMATES AND SCHEDULING ON BACK OF FORM

ADDENDUM

Decorative Finishes

Howser House  
Kings Mountain National Military Park  
South Carolina

by  
Peter Snell

July 1974





DECORATIVE FINISHES  
HOWSER HOUSE

1. General

The following is a description of evidence found at the Howser House pertaining to its decorative scheme. It is remarkable that after 170 years so much woodwork remains and exhibits original paint. Plaster walls have at most two layers of paint over the original finish.

2. Exterior

No traces of paint were found. Assuming the cornice, fascia, and trim of the roof and the wood frame lintels and shutters of all exterior openings were painted, it is likely to have been a single cream or tan paint.

3. Cellar

No traces of paint, plaster, or whitewash remain.

4A. Interior Paints, Woodwork

Woodwork within the house was either painted red, blue, or left natural. The paint types and colors were consistent throughout the house, although they have survived differently. The red paint was used as a primary coat on some woodwork.

B. Blue Paint

When mentioned in this report, blue paint refers to a coarsely-ground oil-type paint with a non-fugitive pigment granule of Munsell color 10B 3/6 in a white paint. The original appearance was closest to Munsell color 10B 5/6, but the paint was very difficult to use due to incomplete mixing and varies from 10B 5/4 to 10B 6/6 in chroma and value with a tendency to streak, show brush marks, and appear "patchy." This suggests the pigment may have been Prussian blue, iron blue, or smalts purchased as a dry powder and added to white lead paste along with other ingredients before use. Re-creation of the paint recipe will be necessary to approximate the color range and particle size that gave the paint "life" as opposed to a "flat" monotone color.

### C. Red Paint

When mentioned in this report, red paint refers to the dark orange-red paint used both as a primer and finish coat on ceilings, paneling, and a majority of woodwork.

The pigment ranges between Munsell color 10R 3/6 and 10R 4/8. The vehicle has almost completely decomposed or disappeared, leaving the finely divided flakes of pigment, suggestive of a red iron oxide, and a chalky 10R 4/6 appearance. Large particle size and the lack of white lead paste means the paint when restored to original lustre (by a thin layer of acryloid) is still a "flat" paint and most nearly matches Munsell 10R 3/7.

### 5A. Interior Plasterwork

All walls received two coats of plaster on a mud and straw coat that is "picked up" or scored in a diamond pattern to receive it. Both layers are "floated" coats. The first, or ground, coat is a lime plaster with much sand and animal hair. Onto this is applied a fine white plaster of slaked lime and washed sand which is worked while wet until glass smooth, called "trowled stucco" or "bastard stucco."

### B. Casein Paint

This paint was applied to the clean plaster as a first finish coat in either of two colors, white or yellow-orange. The white generally matches Munsell color N 9.0/0. The yellow-orange was used only below the chair rail and applied with long vertical brush strokes. The original paint appears now as Munsell color 10YR 8/4 with a pigment range of 5YR 6/10 to 7.5YR 7/8 ( a yellow ochre) with a restored appearance of 7.5YR 7/6 on the polished plaster.

### 6A. Room 101: Floors

There is good evidence there was no finish on them.

### B. Baseboards

These were painted red.

### C. Plaster Walls

These were yellow-orange below the chair rail and white above. All plaster was later painted Munsell color 10YR 8/2, followed by dirt and the present whitewash.

D. Chair Rail

These were painted blue. Chair rails on the exterior walls were primed with red paint.

E. Window Architraves, Flankers, Sills, and Frames

These were painted blue and primed with red paint.

F. Door Architraves

These and frames to the exterior were primed red and painted blue. Architraves to Rooms 102 and 103 were painted blue.

G. Cornice Molding

This is primed with red paint and painted blue. The top plane perpendicular to the ceiling was painted red again with the ceiling.

H. Ceiling

This was painted red.

I. Mantelpiece

The mantelpiece was painted red. The shelf is missing but may have been highlighted in blue. Exposed stones of the fireplace have many layers of lime wash.

7A. Stair Decoration: Risers and Treds

These were unpainted. Fillet molds under treads and tread returns were unpainted.

B. Stringer

The stringer facing the center of Room 101 (east) was painted blue. Second flight stringers and all ornamental brackets and stringers were unpainted. The notched baseboard stringer on the west wall was painted red.

C. Railing and Balusters

These are missing.

D. Paneling

This was painted red around the stairs. All applied moldings and trim boards are painted blue. The boards on the interior of the closet (101A) are painted blue.

E. Baseboard

The baseboards on the landing are painted red.

F. Board Wall

The board wall on the south side of the second flight of steps was unpainted.

G. Inverted Baseboards

These were used to box stair openings and are unpainted.

8A-C. Room 102: Same as 7A-C

D. Chair Rail

This was painted red.

E. Window Flankers, Sills, and Frames

These are painted blue and primed with red paint. (7E)

F. Door Architrave

This architrave to Room 101 is painted blue.

G. Cornice Molding

This is painted red.

H. Ceiling

This is painted red. (7H)

I. Mantelpiece

This was painted red. Fillet molding under the mantel shelf and on the underside of the shelf was painted blue. The stone jack arch was plastered and whitewashed over the original lime wash.

J. Corner Closet Architrave

This is blue on red primer. The board walls are painted red on the exterior and blue on the interior. The plaster wall was white casein paint on inferior plasterwork.

9A-I. Room 103: Same as 8A-I

10A. Room 201: Floors

These had no finish.

B. Baseboards

These were painted red.

C. Plaster Walls

These walls were similar but inferior in finish to the first floor walls and were painted above and below the chair rail with white casein paint. This was followed by dirt and one coat of later paint.

D. Chair Rail

This is painted red. The top member of the three piece construction was painted blue. (Dirt and wear is extreme.)

E. Window Architraves

These were painted blue.

Window Flankers, Sills, and Frames

These exhibit no paint colors. The restored scheme was likely continuous blue chair rails and windowsills.

F. Ceiling Joists

These are exposed with no evidence of paint.

G. There is no evidence of the scheme for the paint and trim on the missing interior board walls.

11A-E. Rooms 202 and 203: Same as 10A-E

F. Ceiling

The ceiling once over 202 showed no traces of paint.

12. Attic

This received no decorative finishes but the top of the stone wall received the plaster and paint of the wall below.



Drawings of Existing Conditions of Henry Howser House  
(set of 3 sheets)

Sheet 1

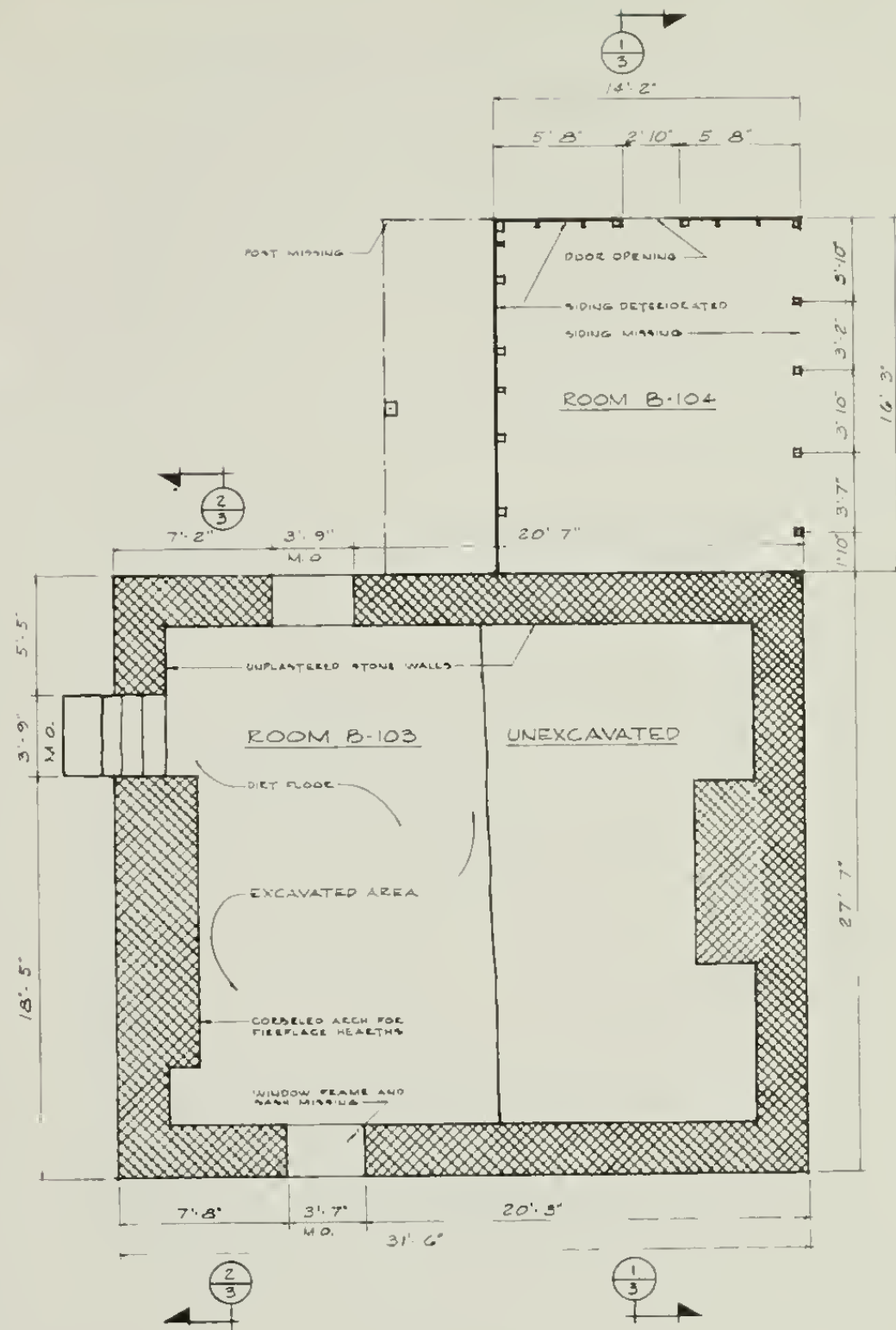
Site Plan and Elevations



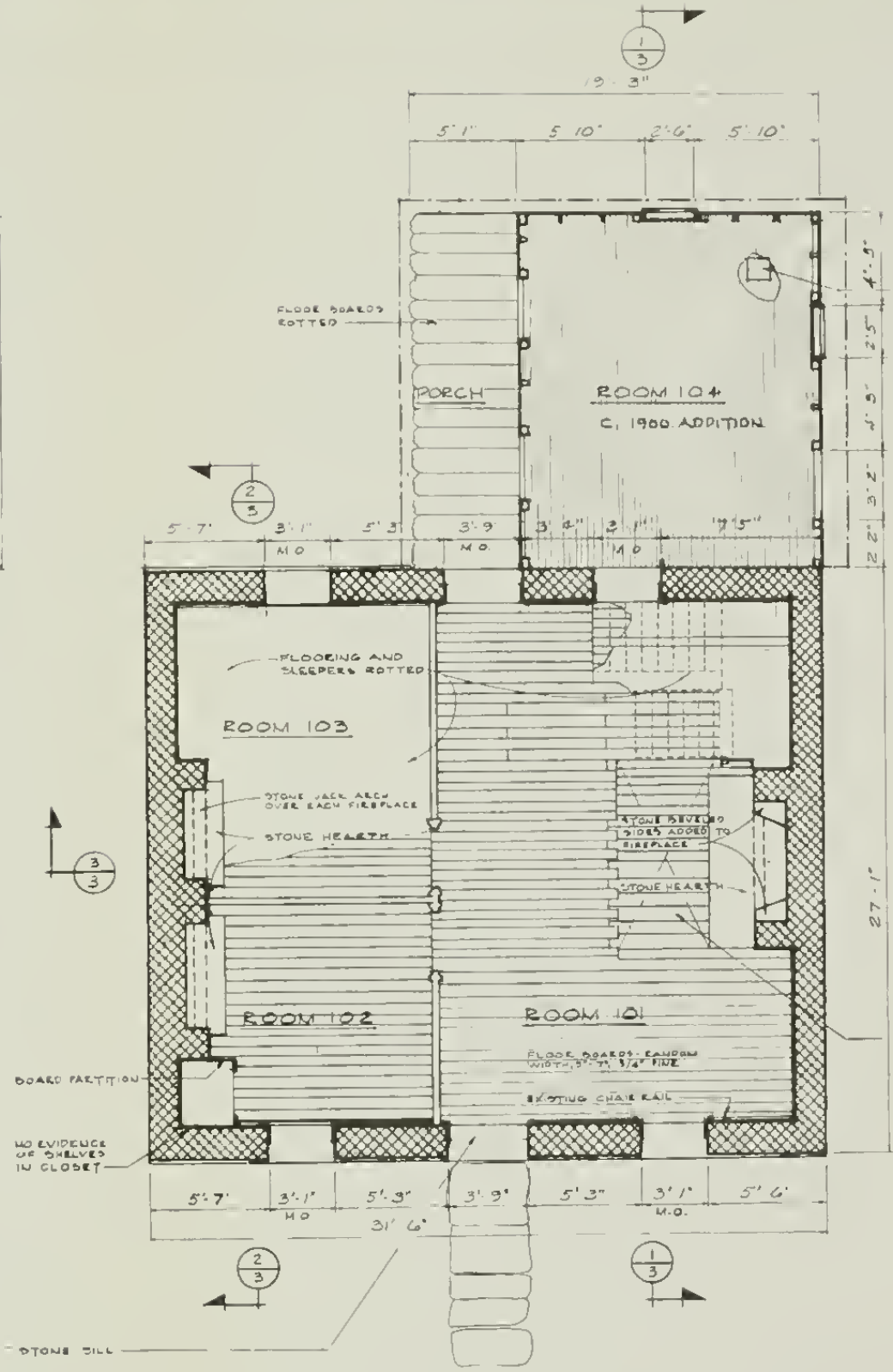
Sheet 2

Floor Plans

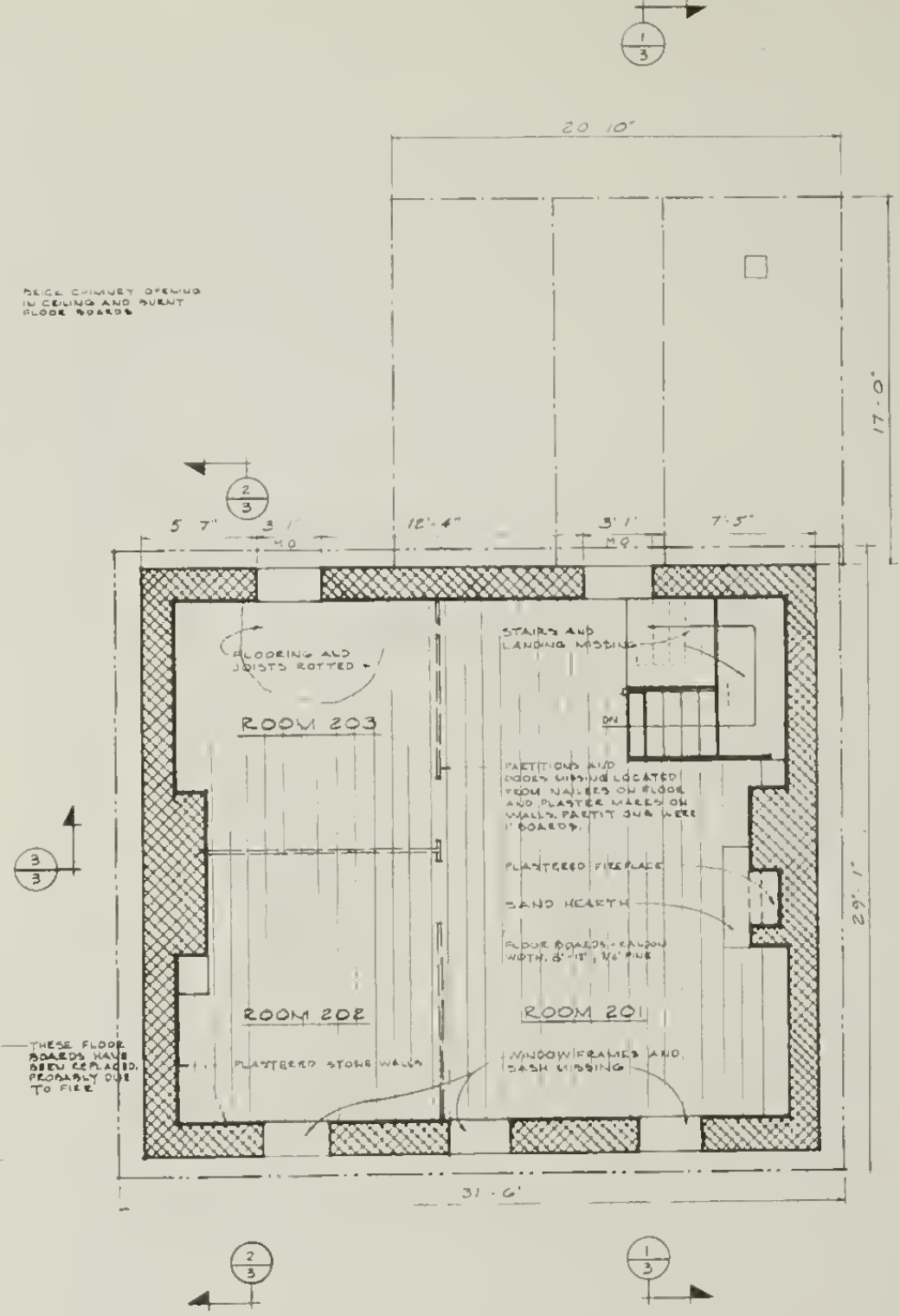




CELLAR FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, ALL FEATURES SHOWN ARE ORIGINAL

# HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT MEASURED DRAWING

## FLOOR PLANS

FLOOR PLANS  
ADAPTIVE RESTORATION OF HENRY HOWSER HOUSE  
KINGS MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK



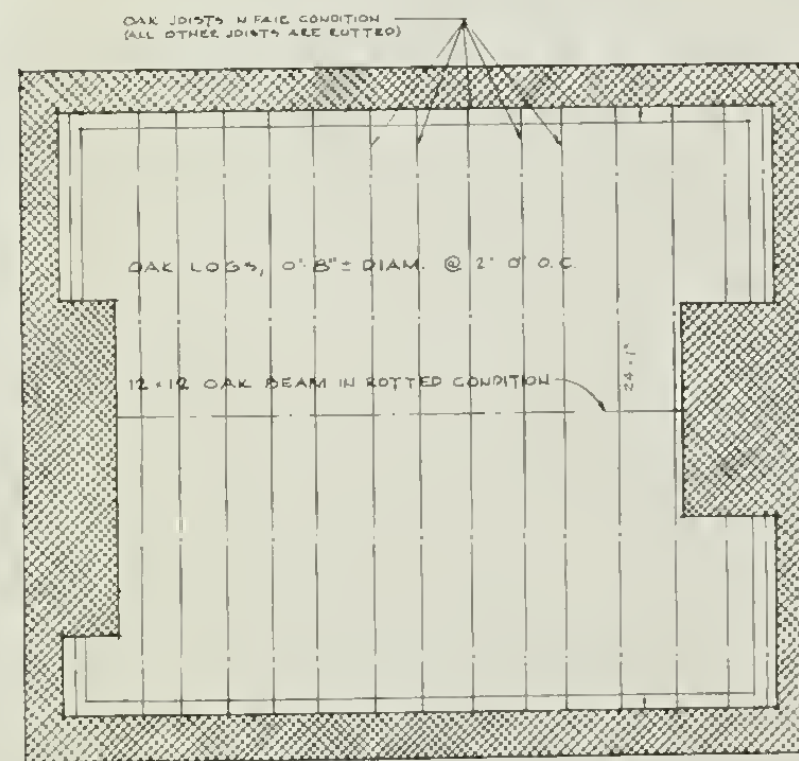
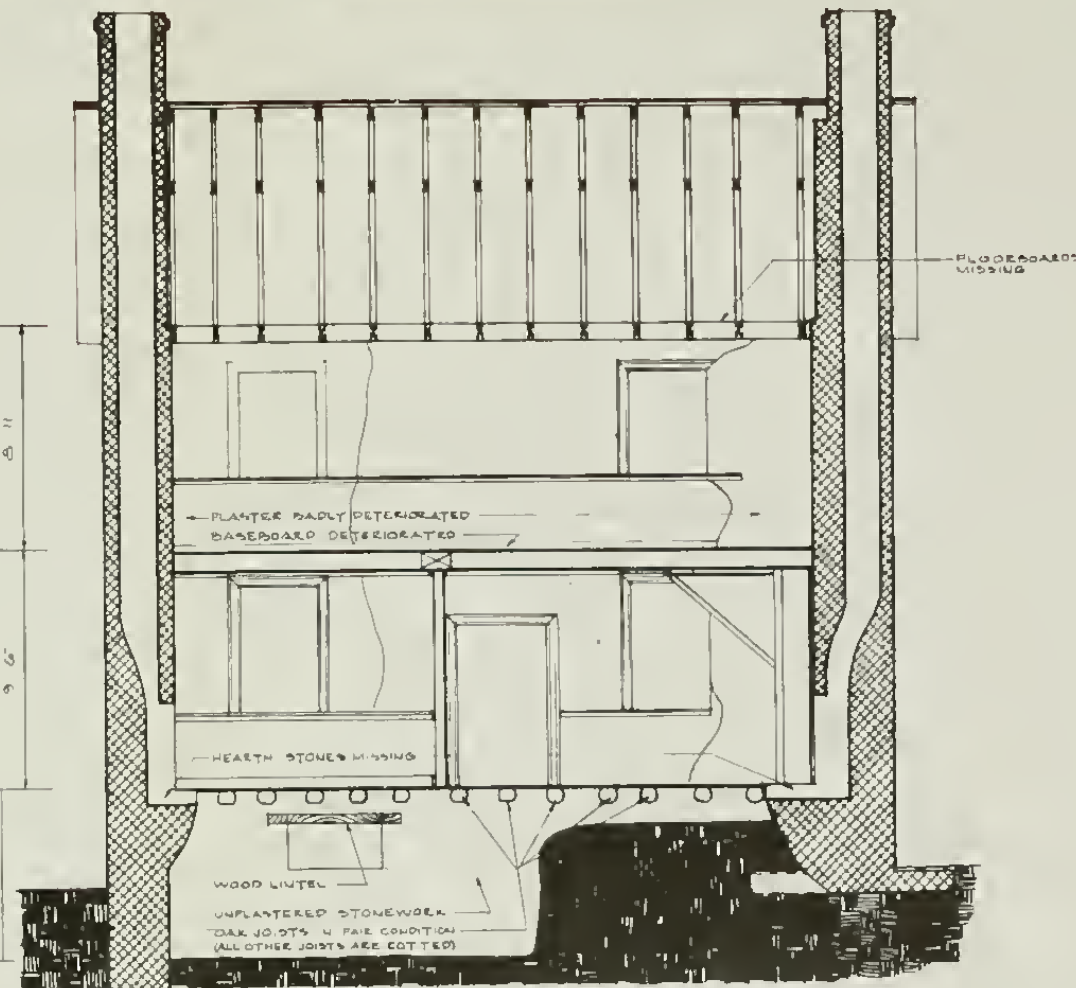
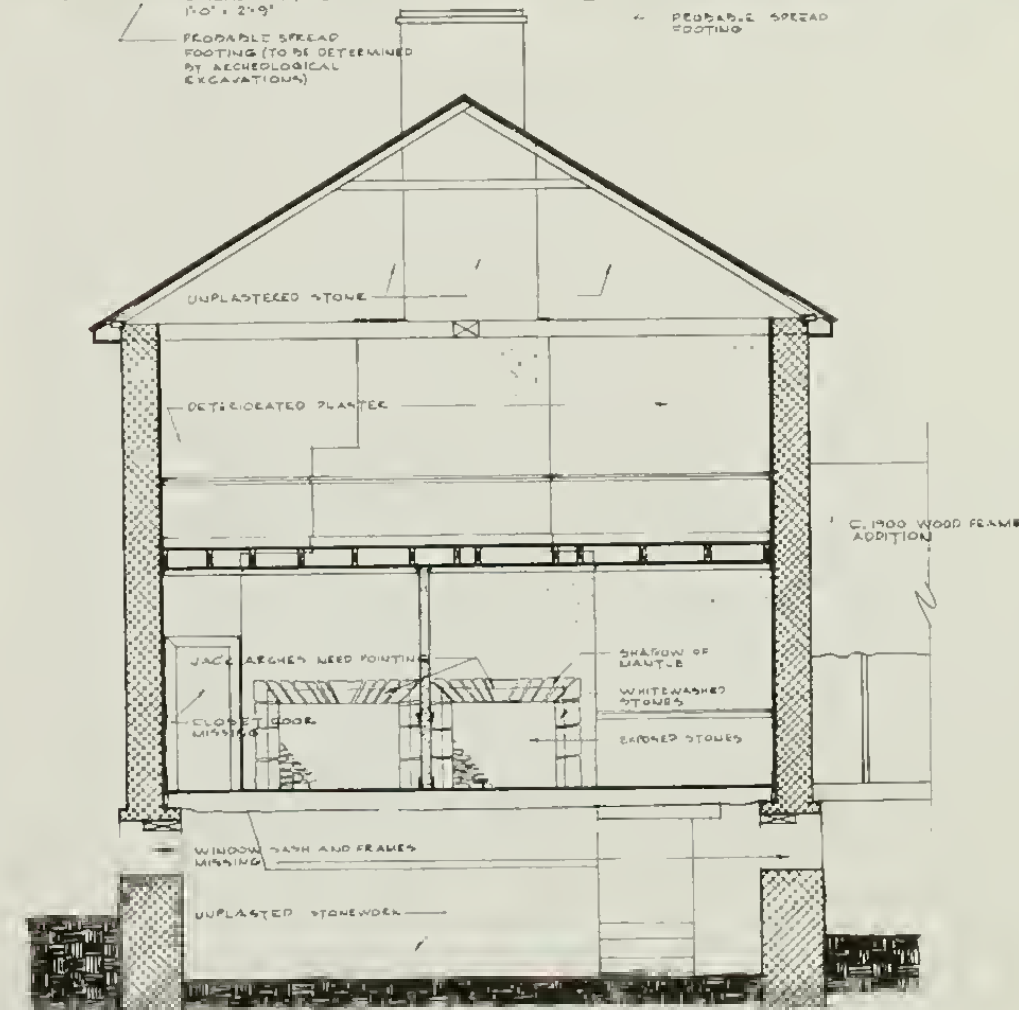
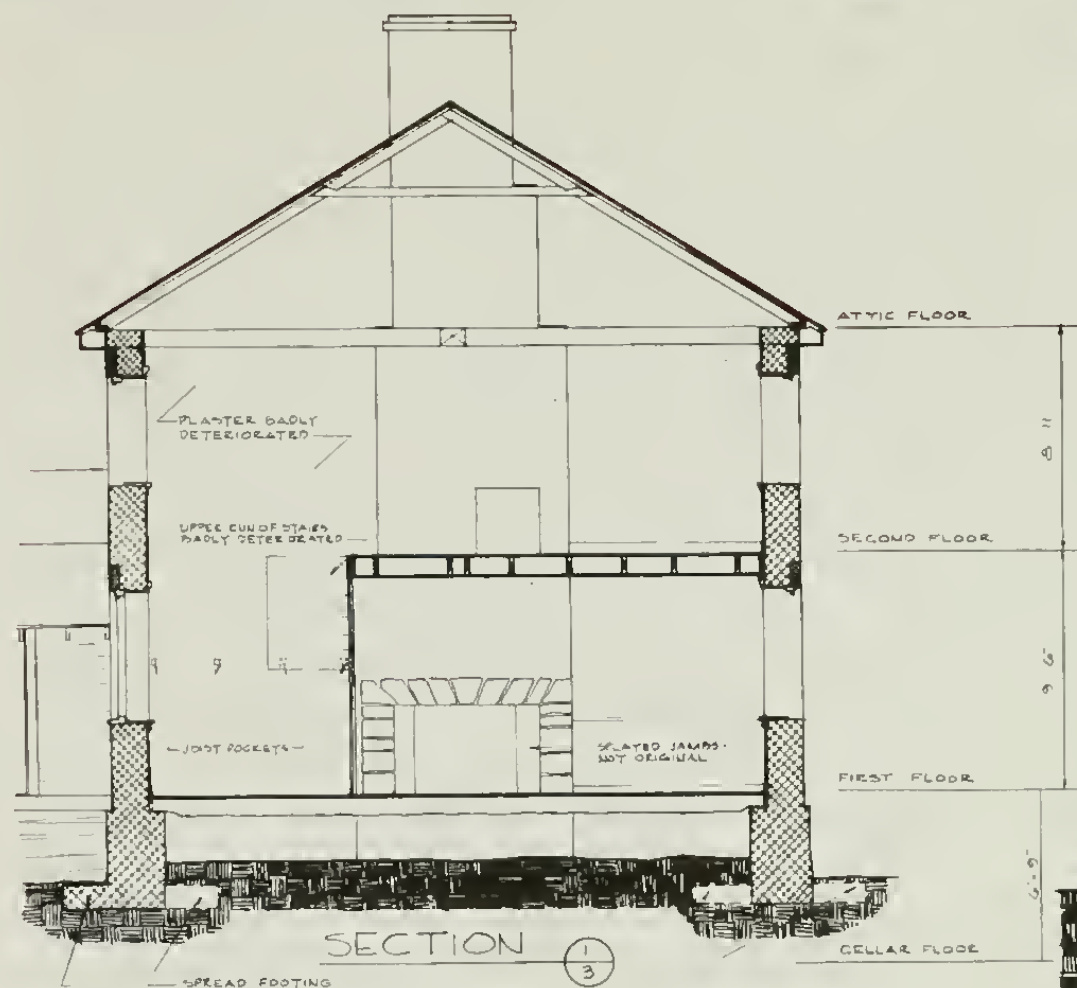
ORIENTATION

PREPARED	
DRAWN	ADLERSTEIN
CHECKED	ADLERSTEIN
SMITH	
ARCH	
ELEC	
MICH	
STUD	
REVISED	
DATE	INITIAL
REGION	SOUTHEAST
PCF NO	
SHEET 2 OF 3	
DRAWING NO	335
DATE	DEC 1973

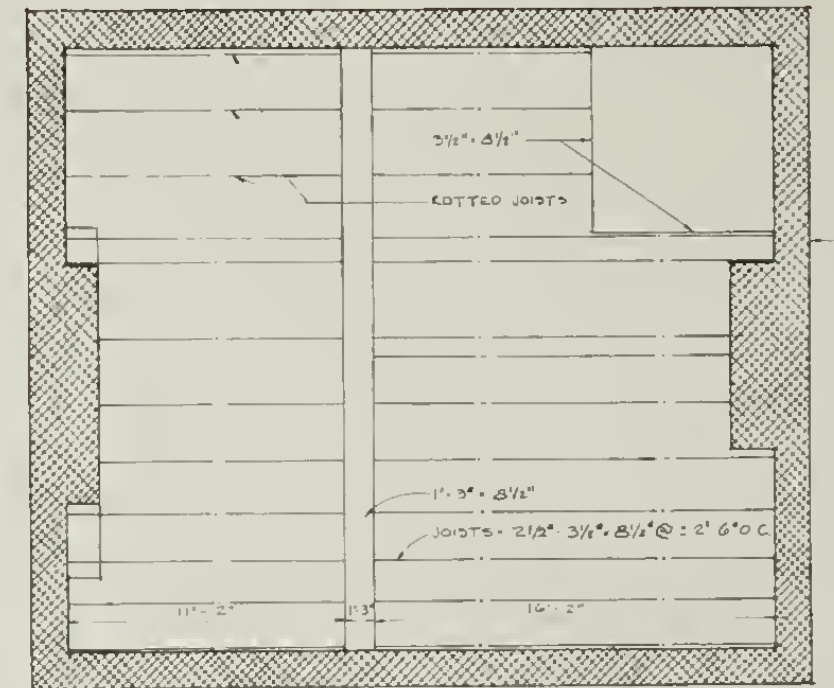
Sheet 3

Sections and Framing Plans

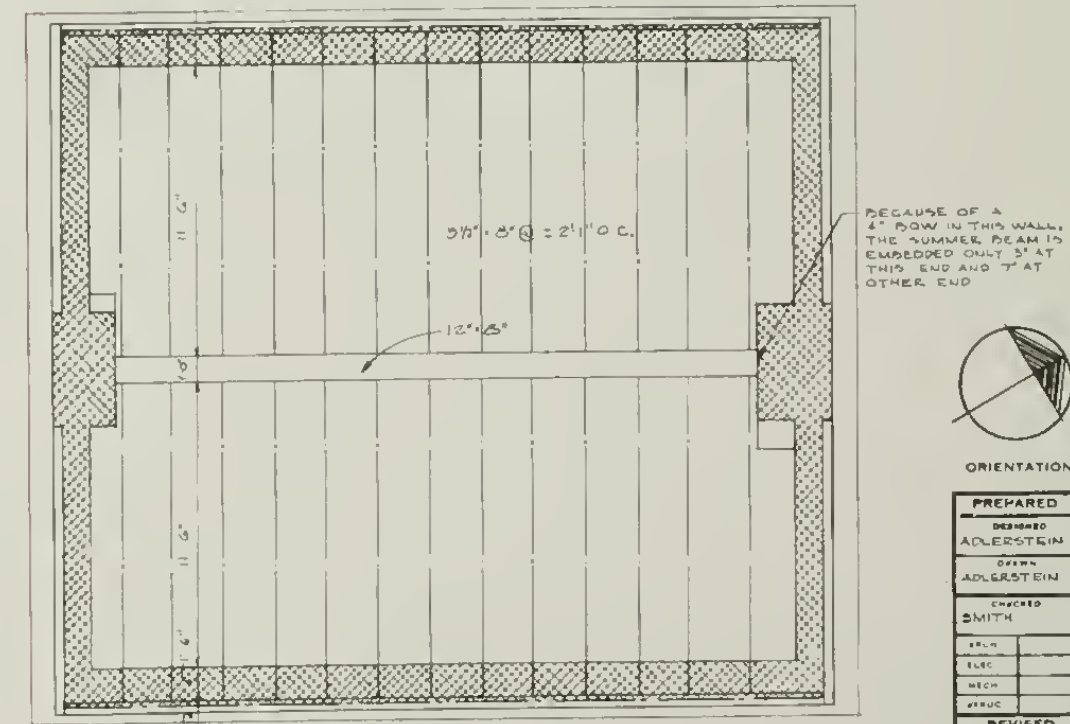




FRAMING - FIRST FLOOR



FRAMING - SECOND FLOOR



FRAMING - ATTIC

SCALE 1" = 1' 0"

1 2 3 4 5 10 FEET

DRAWN AT 1/4" = 1' 0"

SECTIONS AND FRAMING PLANS



ORIENTATION

PREPARED	
DESIGNED	ADLERSTEIN
DRAWN	ADLERSTEIN
CHECKED	SMITH
REVISION	
DATE	INITIAL
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	
32	
33	
34	
35	
36	
37	
38	
39	
40	
41	
42	
43	
44	
45	
46	
47	
48	
49	
50	
51	
52	
53	
54	
55	
56	
57	
58	
59	
60	
61	
62	
63	
64	
65	
66	
67	
68	
69	
70	
71	
72	
73	
74	
75	
76	
77	
78	
79	
80	
81	
82	
83	
84	
85	
86	
87	
88	
89	
90	
91	
92	
93	
94	
95	
96	
97	
98	
99	
100	

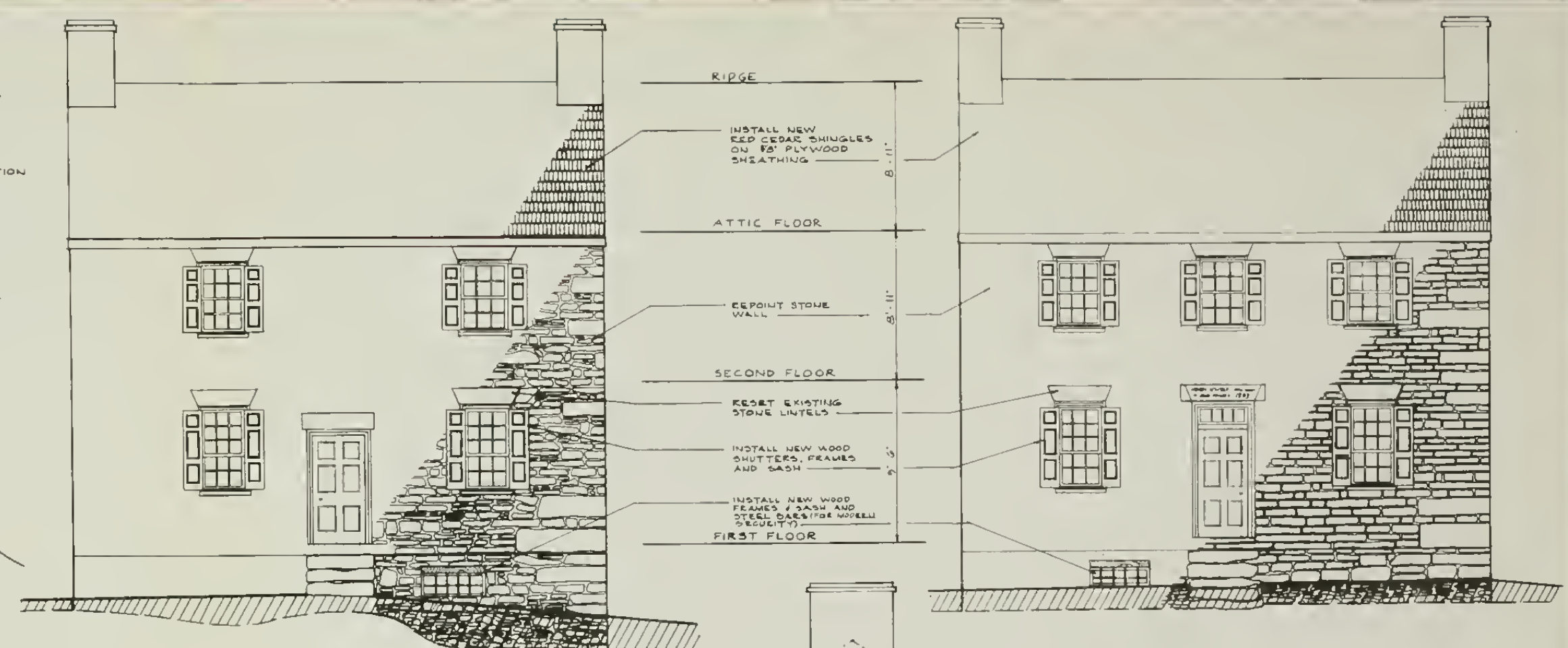
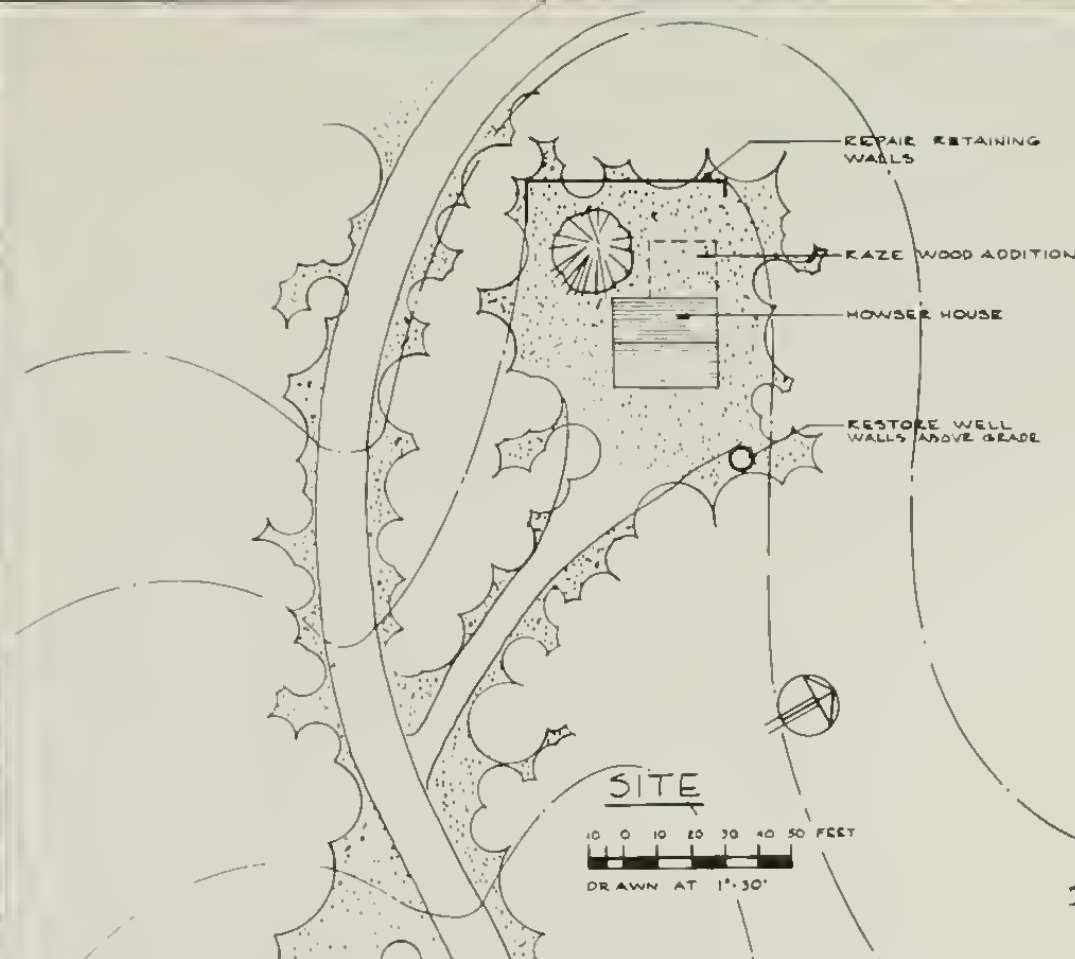


Drawings of Adaptive Restoration of Henry Howser House  
(set of 10 sheets)

Sheet 1

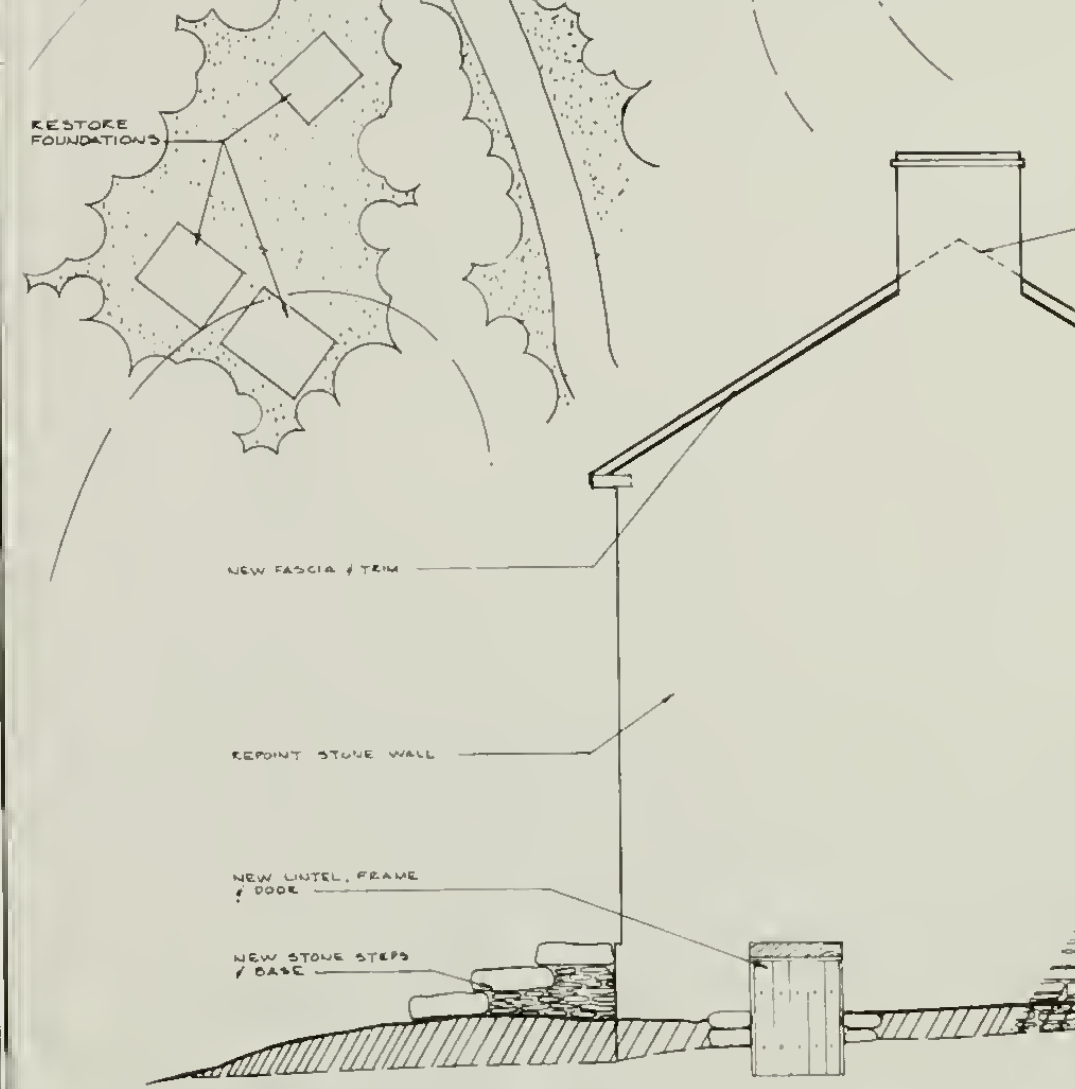
Site Plan and Elevations



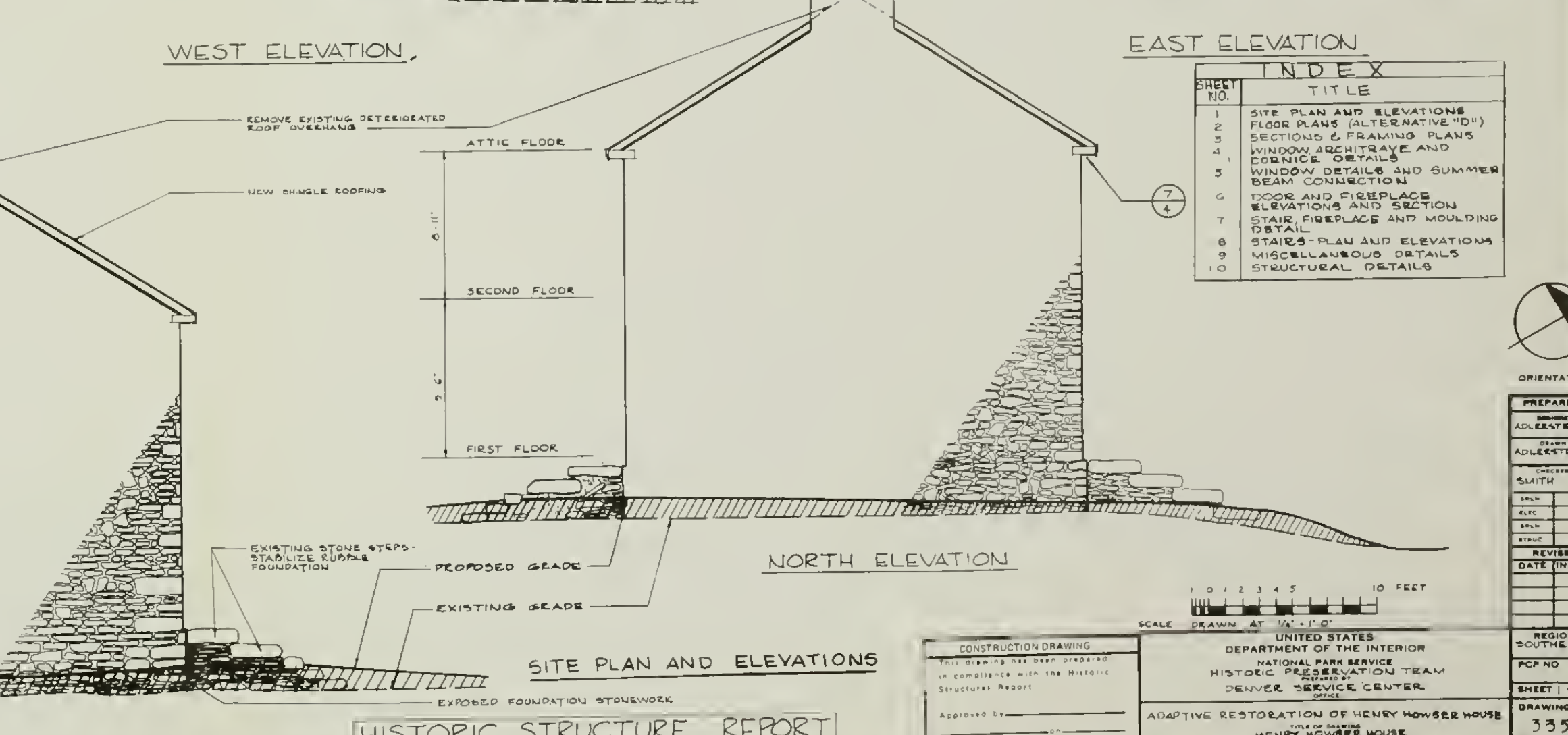


WEST ELEVATION

EAST ELEVATION



SOUTH ELEVATION



SITE PLAN AND ELEVATIONS

# HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT PROPOSED RESTORATION

INDEX	
SHEET NO.	TITLE
1	SITE PLAN AND ELEVATIONS
2	FLOOR PLANS (ALTERNATIVE "D")
3	SECTIONS & FRAMING PLANS
4	WINDOW ARCHITRAVE AND CORNICE DETAILS
5	WINDOW DETAILS AND SUMMER BEAM CONNECTION
6	DOOR AND FIREPLACE ELEVATIONS AND SECTION
7	STAIR, FIREPLACE AND MOULDING DETAIL
8	STAIRS - PLAN AND ELEVATIONS
9	MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS
10	STRUCTURAL DETAILS



ORIENTATION

PREPARED	ADLERSTEIN
DRAWN	ADLERSTEIN
CHECKED	SMITH
SCALE	
ELEC	
STRUC	
REVISED	
DATE	INITIAL
REGION	SOUTHEAST
PCP NO	
SHEET	OF 10
DRAWING NO	335
	25,000
	MTY DEC. 1978

SCALE 1"=10' 0"

1 0 1 2 3 4 5 10 FEET

CONSTRUCTION DRAWING

This drawing has been prepared in compliance with the Historic Structures Report

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Manager: DSC Date: \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION TEAM  
DENVER SERVICE CENTER

ADAPTIVE RESTORATION OF HENRY HOWSER HOUSE

HENRY HOWSER HOUSE

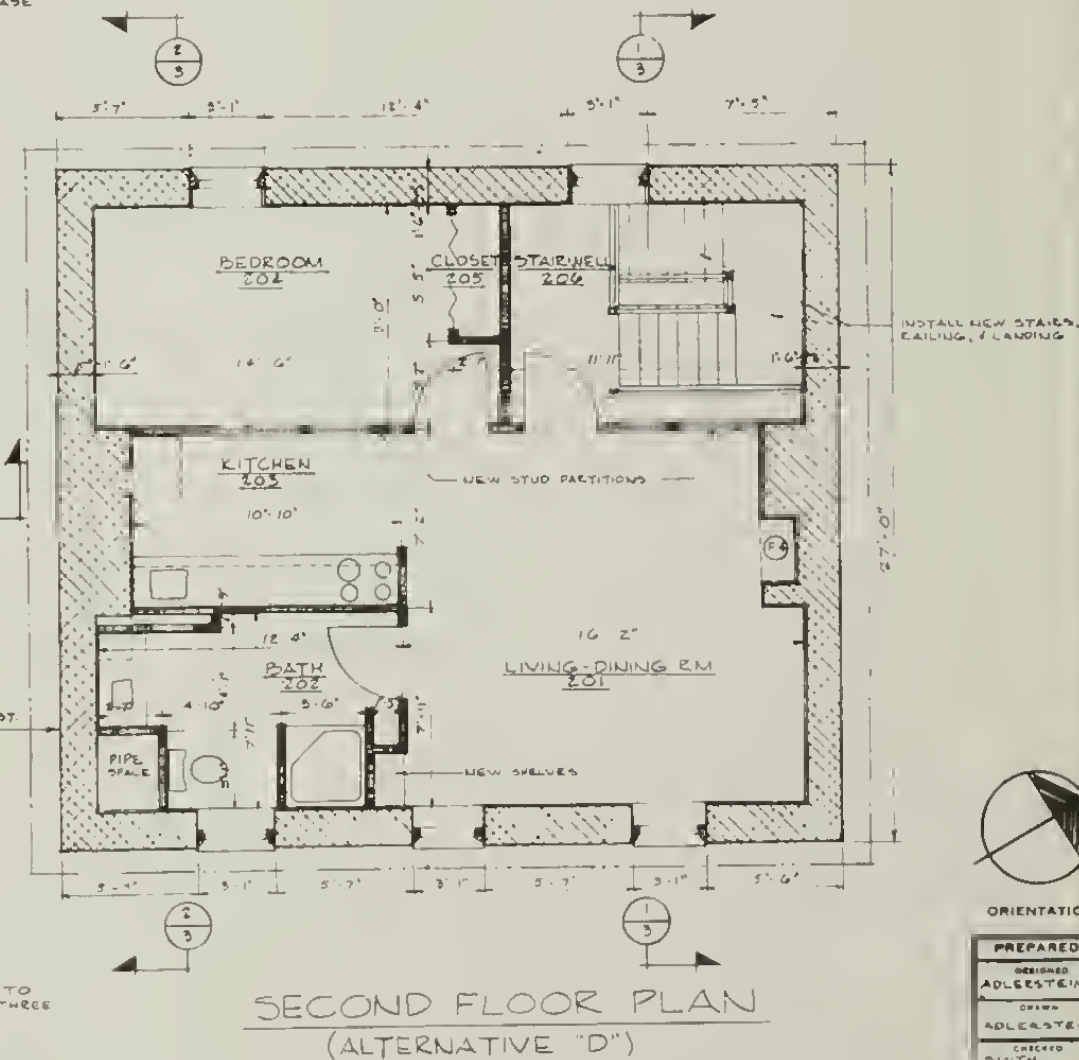
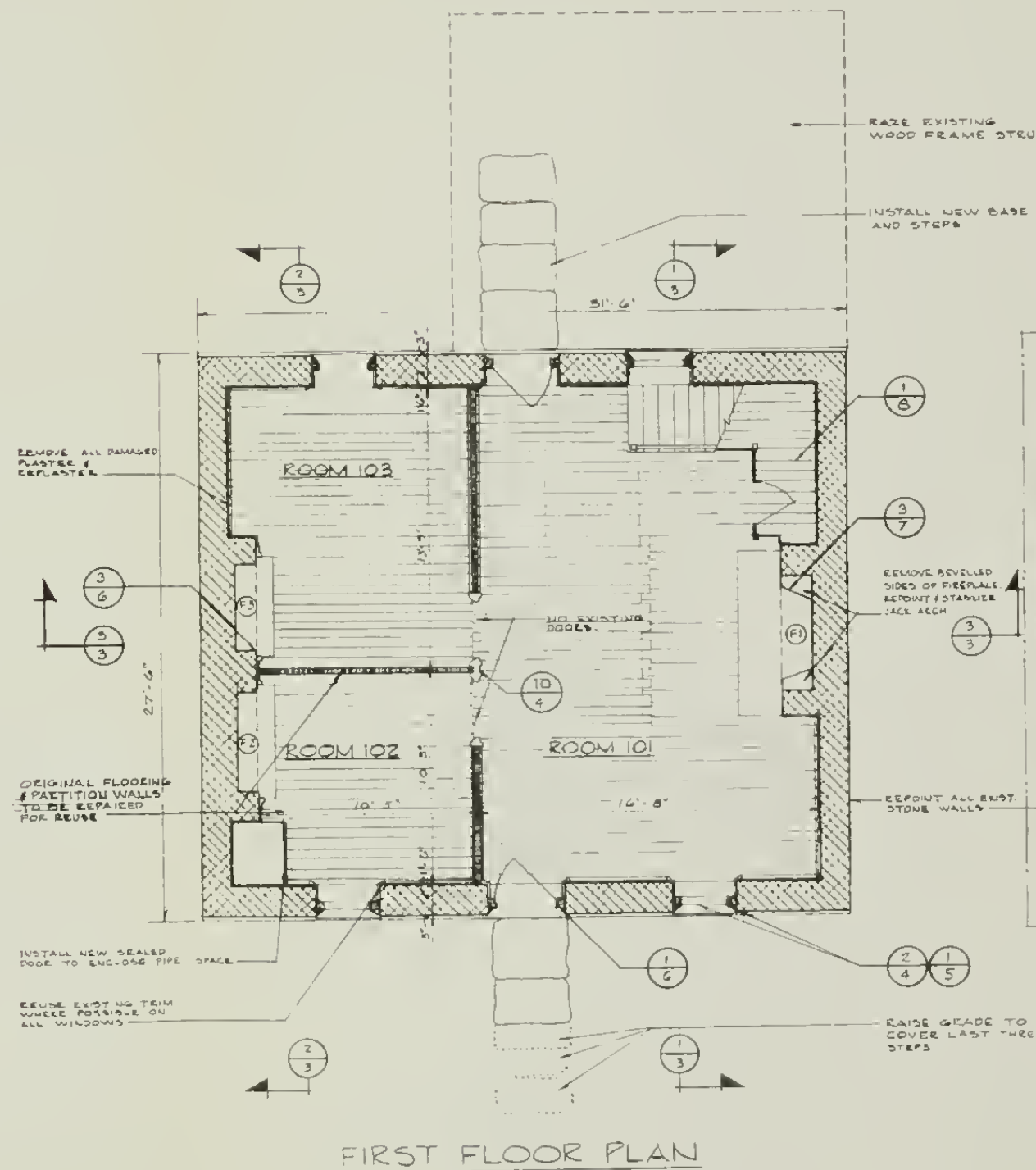
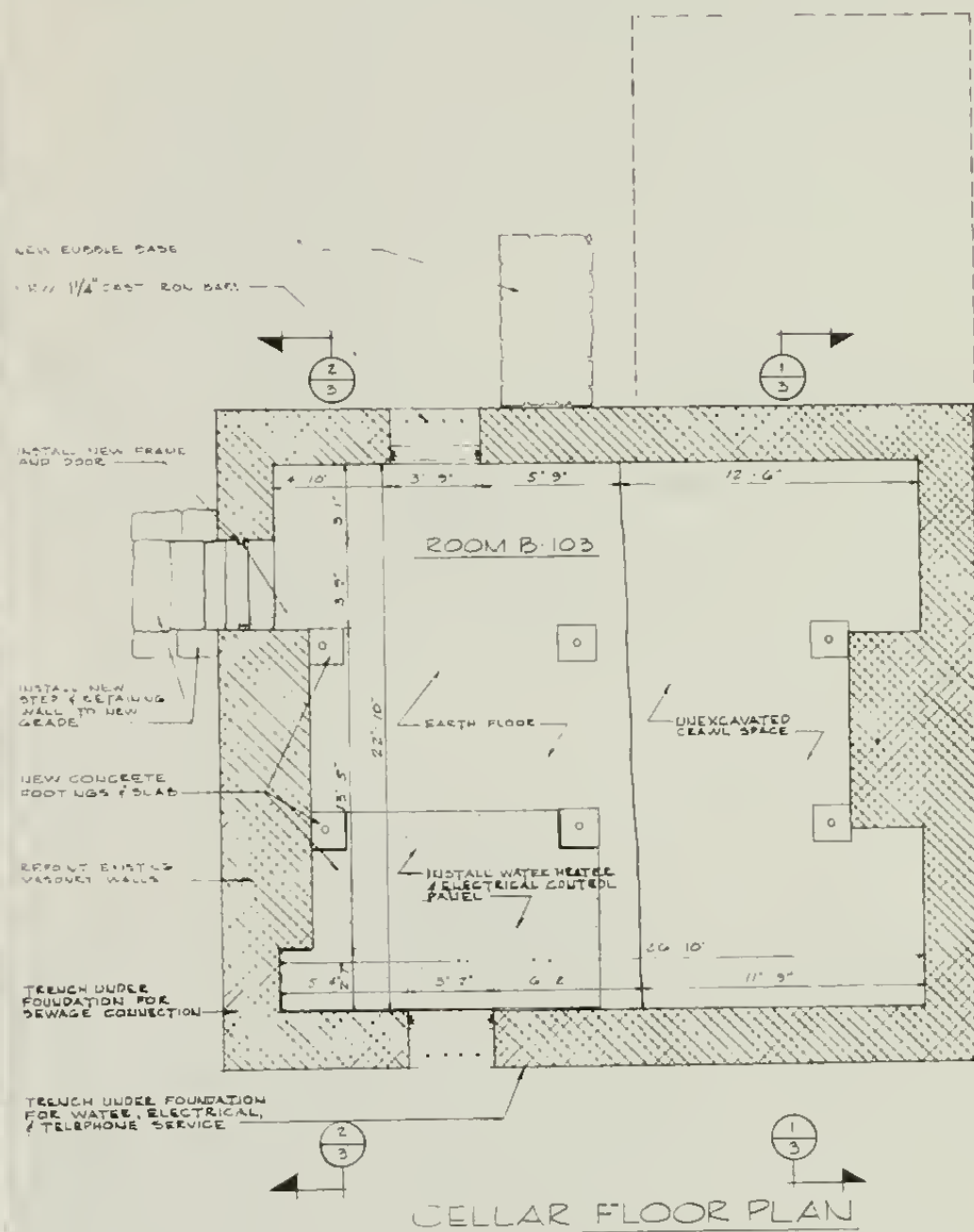
KING'S MOUNTAIN NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

\*SHUTTEE DESIGN FROM H.A.B.D. DRAWING.  
\*DOOR DESIGN FROM ALEXANDER HAZERIAN HOUSE, CHARLOTTE, N.C. & HOLLYWOOD HOUSE, CALDWELL, N.C.

Sheet 2

Floor Plans (Alternative "D")





HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT  
PROPOSED RESTORATION

1" = 3' 0" 10 FEET  
DRAWN AT 1/8" = 1' 0"

FLOOR PLANS (ALTERNATIVE "D")

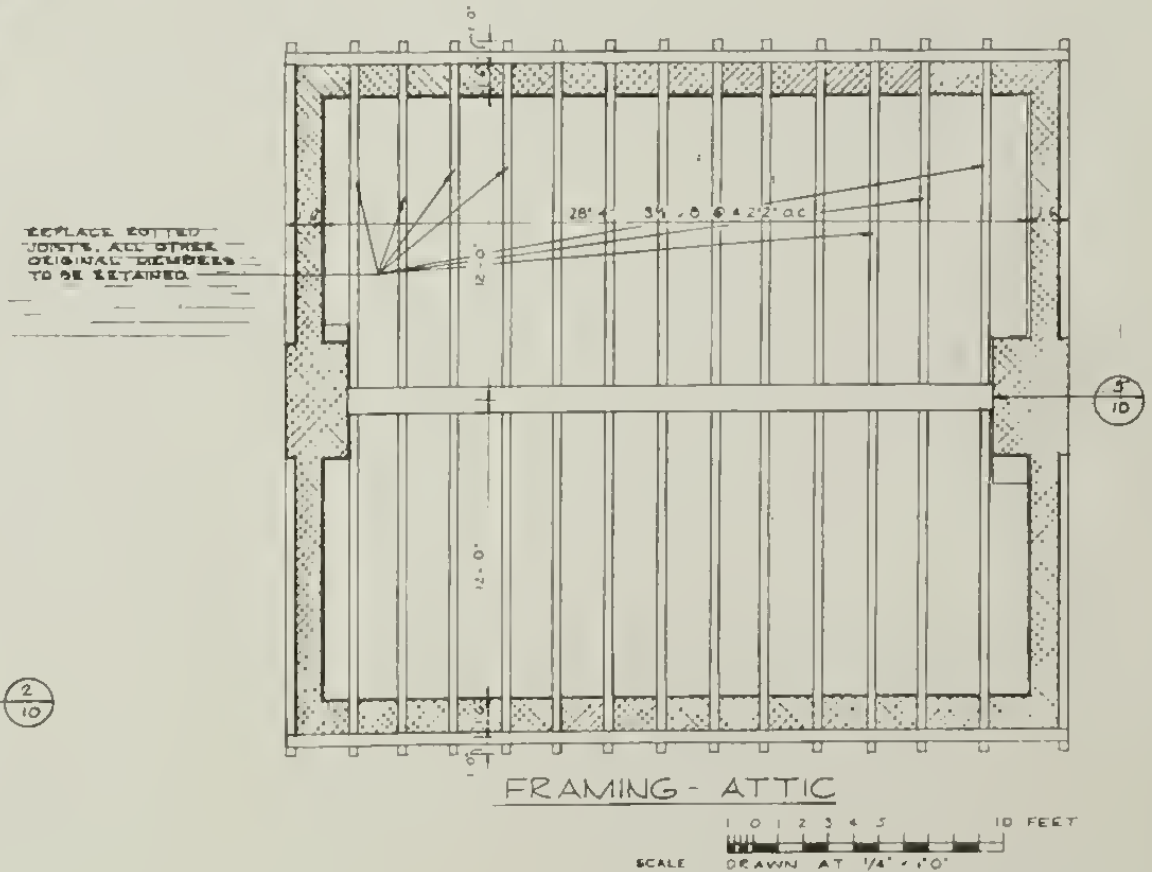
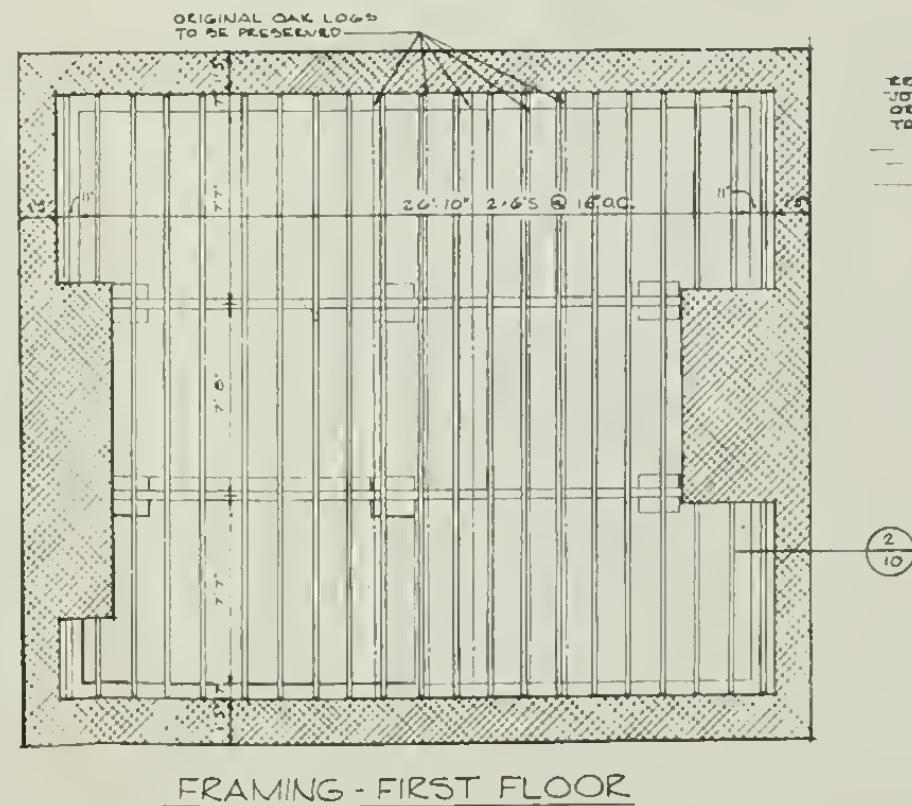
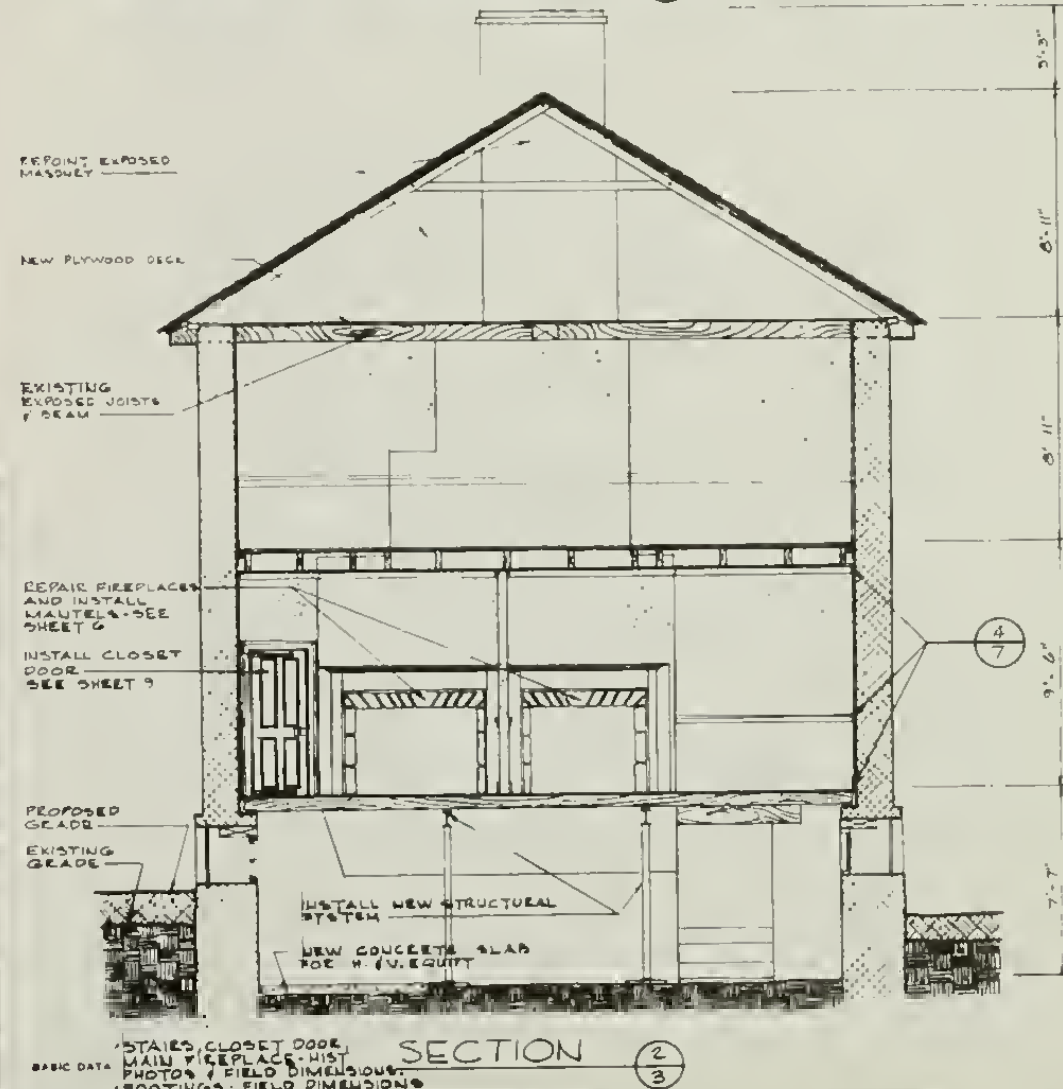
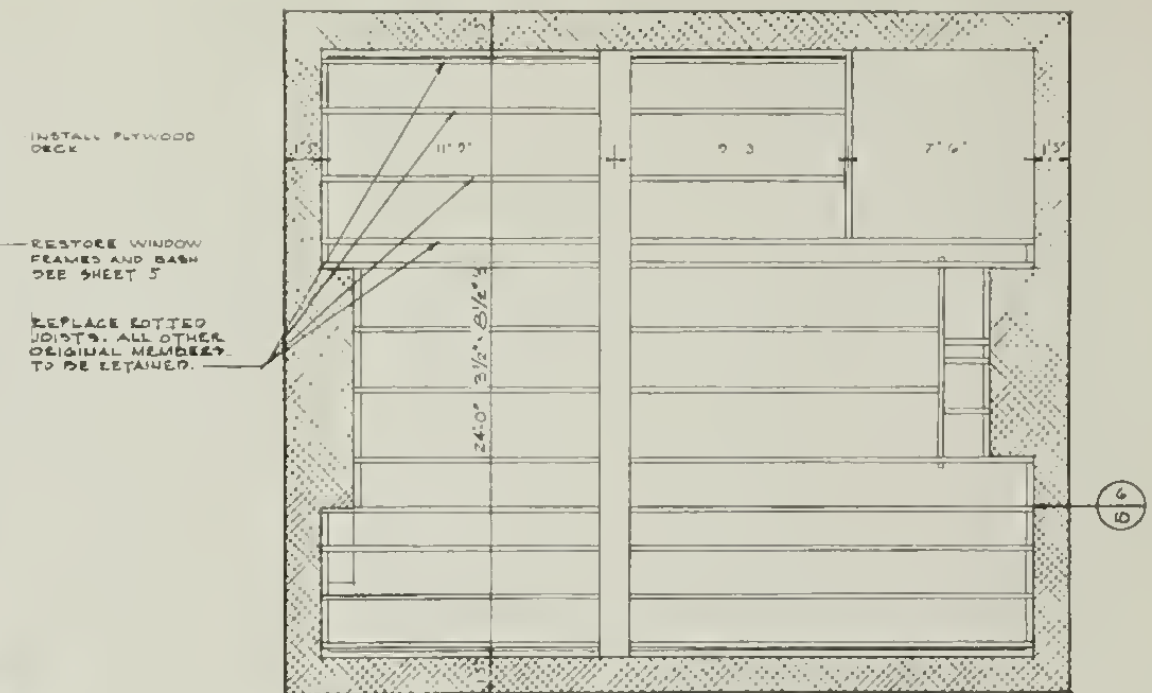
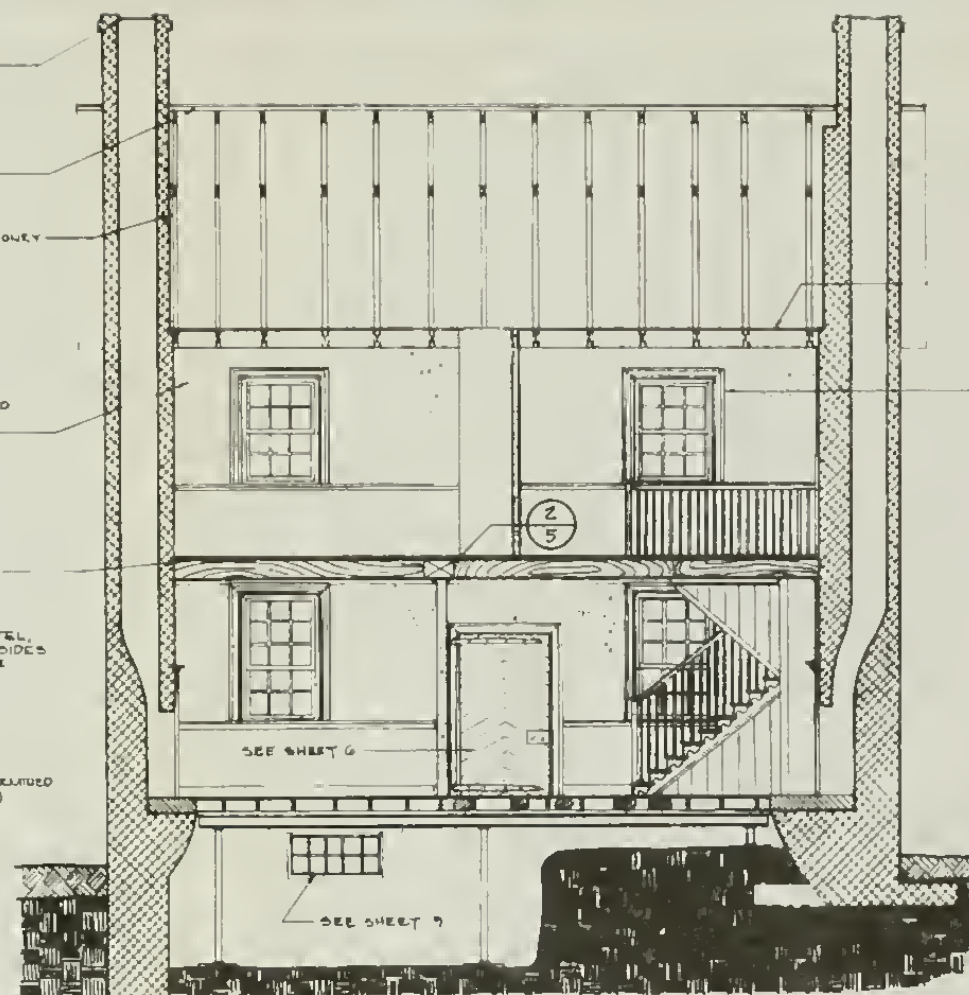
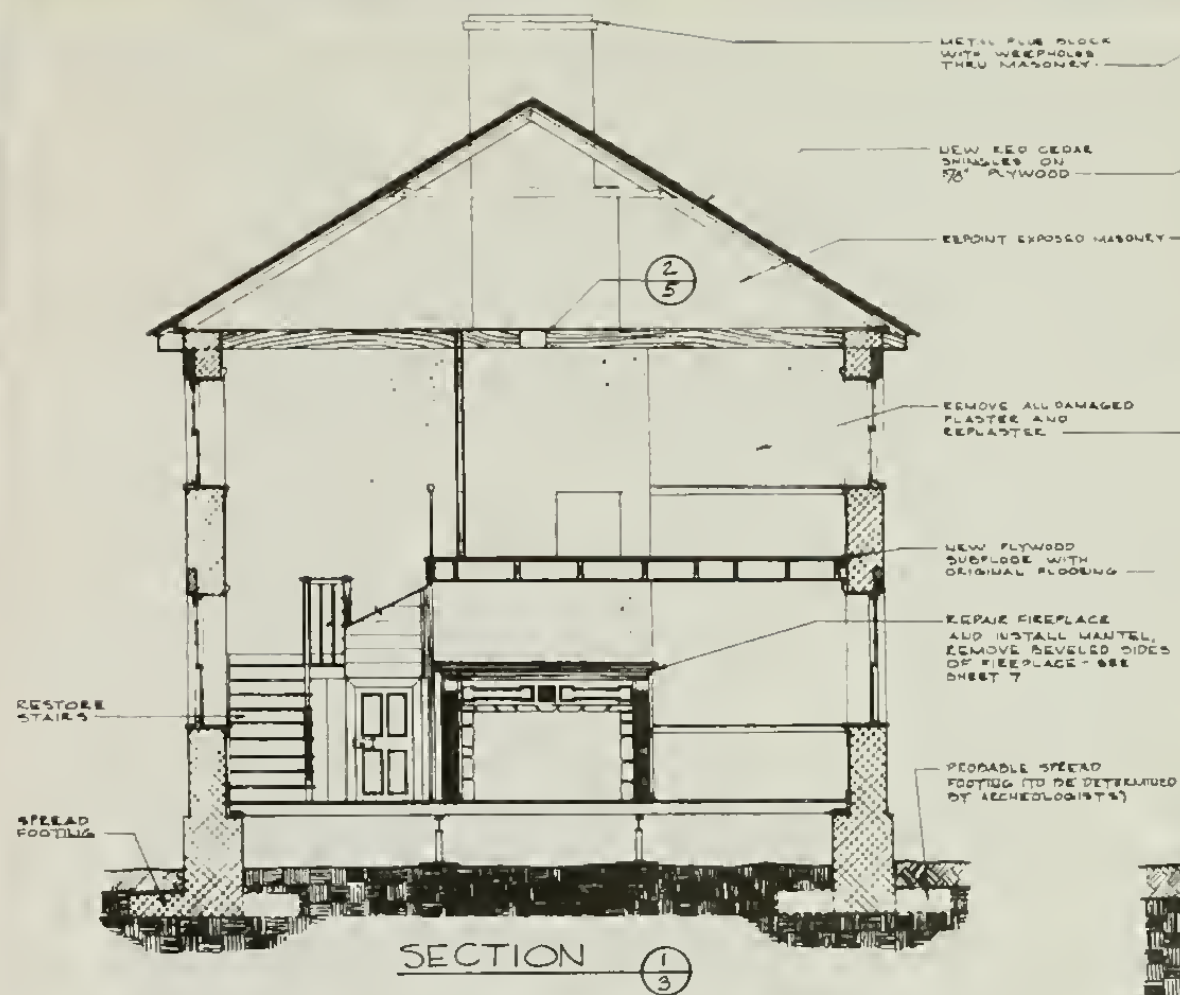


PREPARED	
DESIGNED	ADLERSTEIN
DRAWN	ADLERSTEIN
CHECKED	SMITH
REVISOR	
DATE	INITIAL
REGION	SOUTHEAST
PCP NO	
SHEET 2 OF 10	
DRAWING NO	335
	25.000
DATE	DEC. 1978

Sheet 3

Sections and Framing Plans





SCALE 1" = 10' 10 FEET  
DRAWN AT 1/4" = 1'0"

SECTIONS & FRAMING PLANS

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT  
PROPOSED RESTORATION



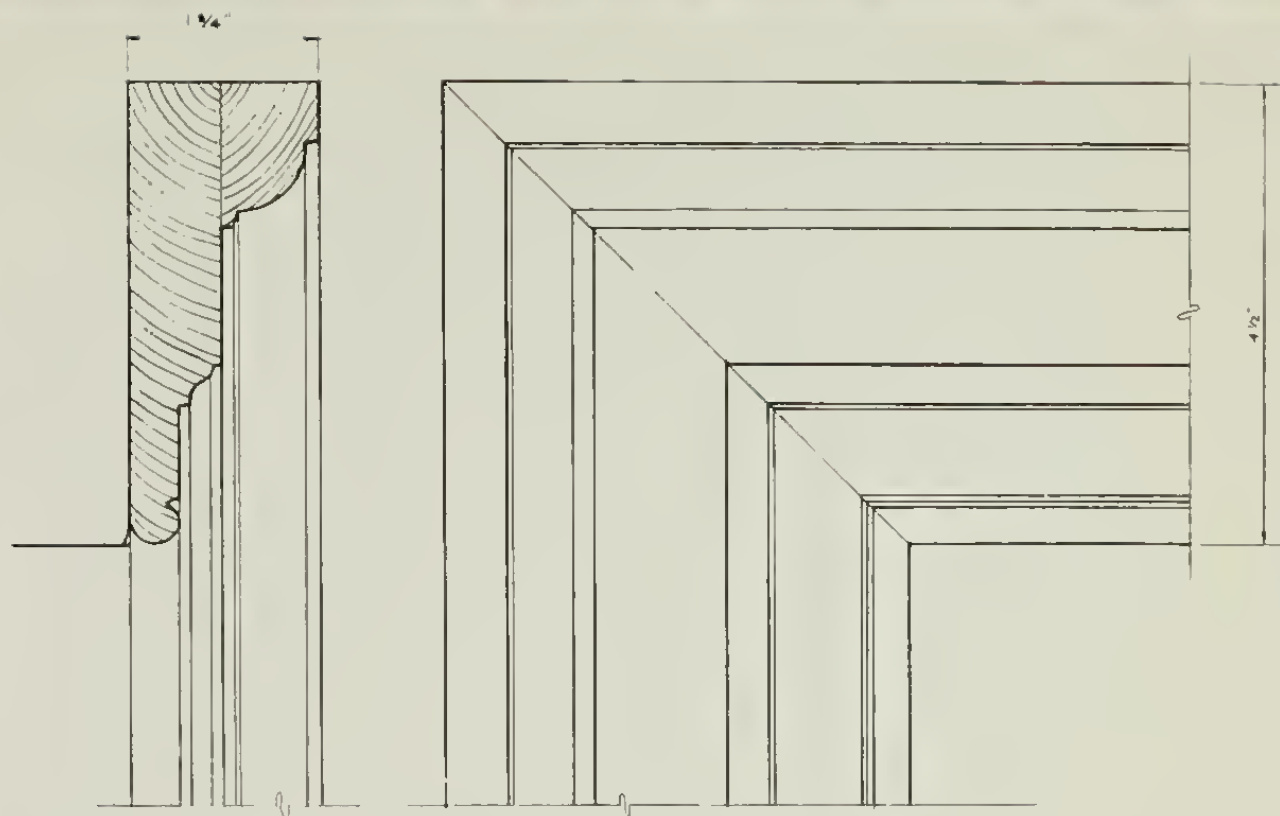
ORIENTATION

PREPARED	ADLERSTEIN
DRAWN	ADLERSTEIN
CHECKED	SMITH
DATE	
REVIEWED	
DATE	
INITIAL	
REGION	SOUTHEAST
PCFNO.	
SHEET 3 OF 10	
DRAWING NO.	335
DATE	DEC. 1973

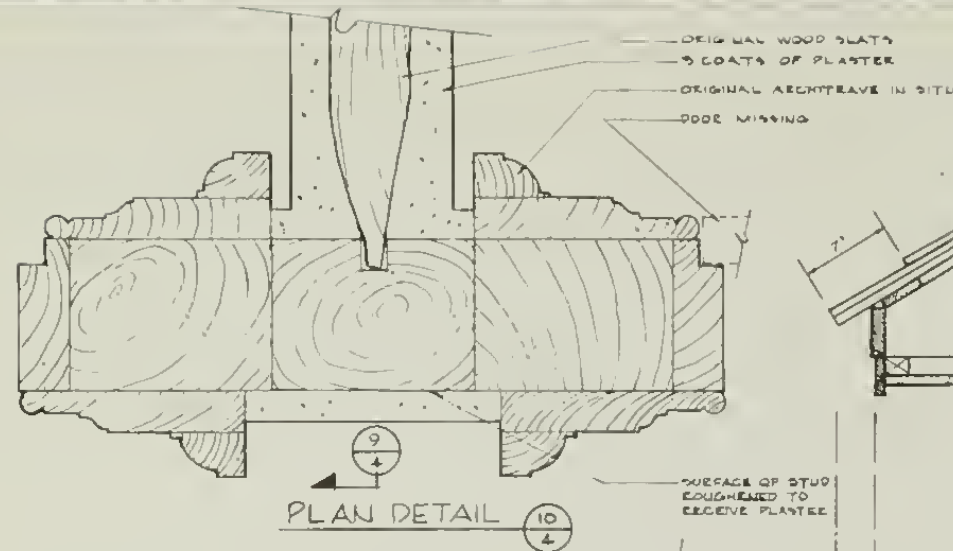
Sheet 4

Window Architrave and Cornice Details

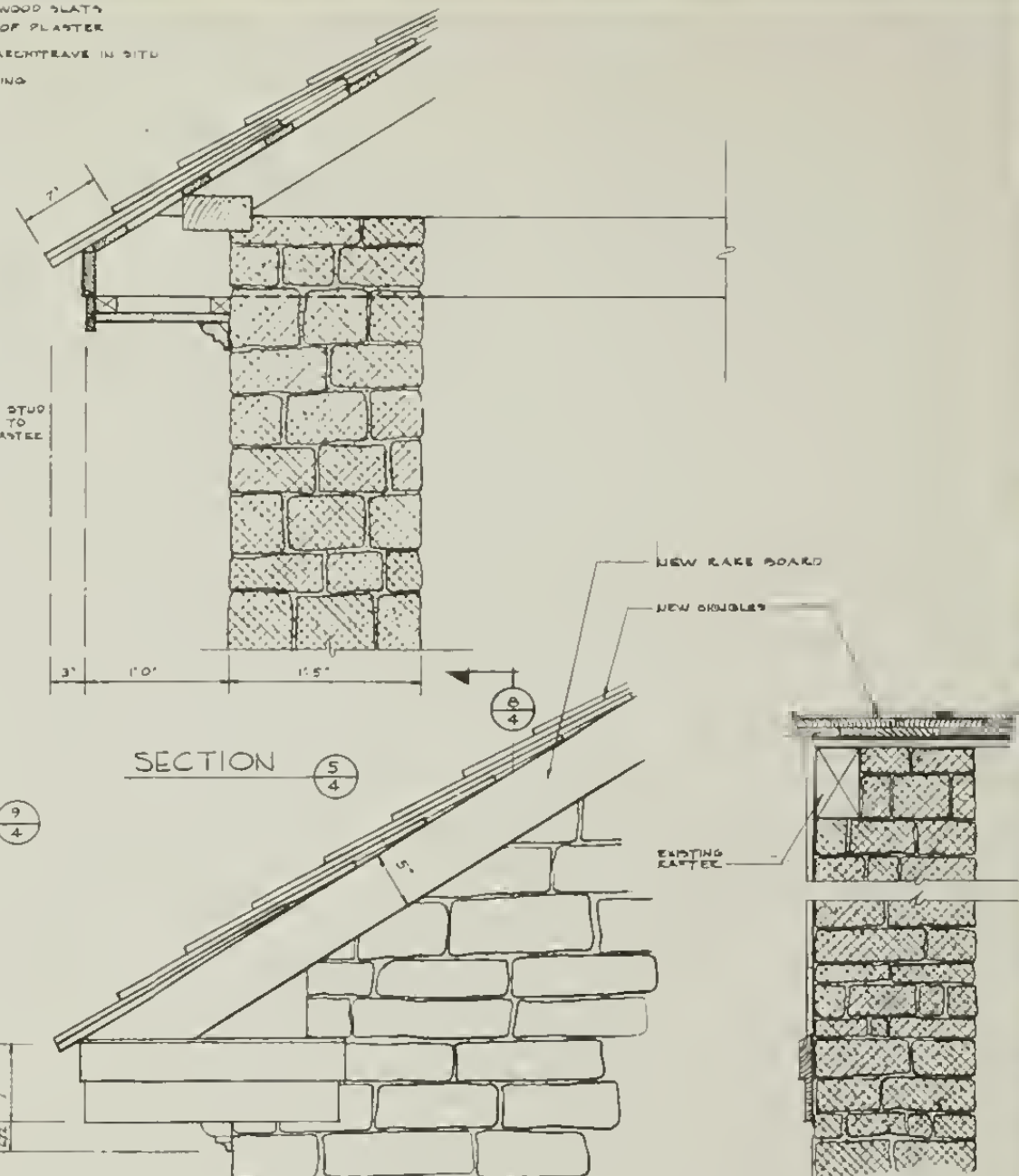




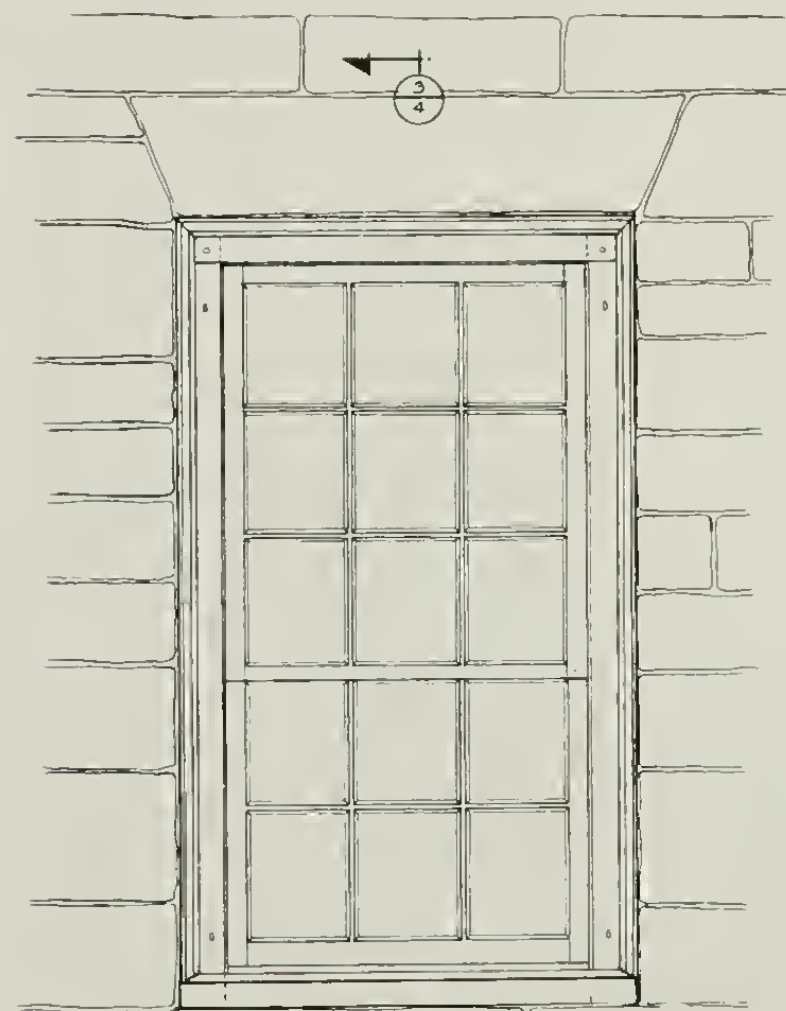
F.S.D. ARCHITRAVE - SECTION & ELEVATION (1/4)



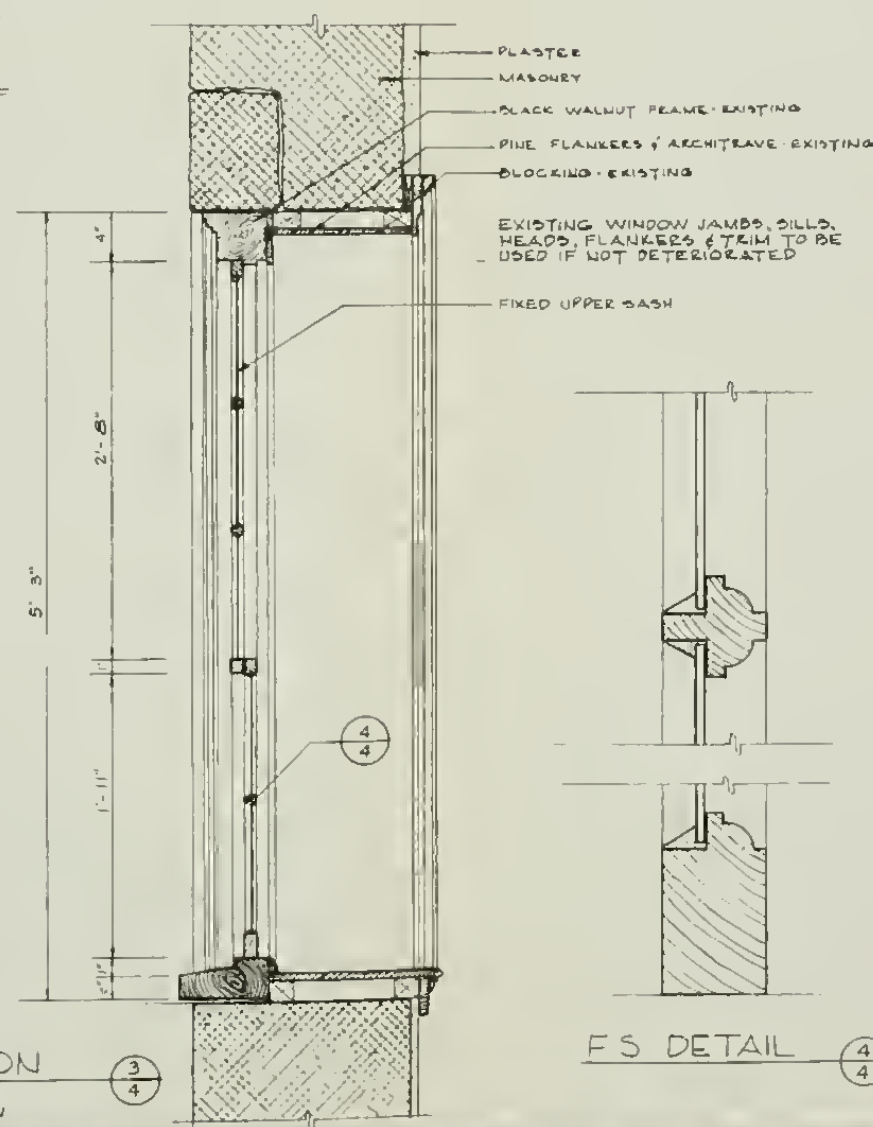
PLAN DETAIL (10/4)  
SURFACE OF STUD ENOUGH TO RECEIVE PLASTER  
FIRST FLOOR STUD PARTITION SECTION (9/4)



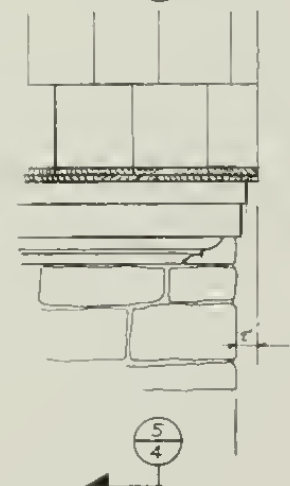
SECTION (5/4)  
SECTION (8/4)  
GABLE VIEW (7/4)



TYPICAL 1ST FL WINDOW-ELEV & SECTION (2/4)



F.S. DETAIL (4/4)



EAVE VIEW (6/4)

PARTIAL ELEVATION OF CORNICE

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT  
PROPOSED RESTORATION

SCALE DRAWN AT 1/2" = 1'-0" UNLESS NOTED

WINDOW ARCHITRAVE AND  
CORNICER DETAILS

ORIENTATION

PREPARED

DESIGNED

ADLB/STERN

DRAWN

GERARD

STYEN

CHECKED

SMITH

ARCH

ELEC

MECH

STRUCT

REVISED

DATE INITIAL

REGION

SOUTHEAST

PCP NO

SHEET 4 OF 10

DRAWING NO.

335

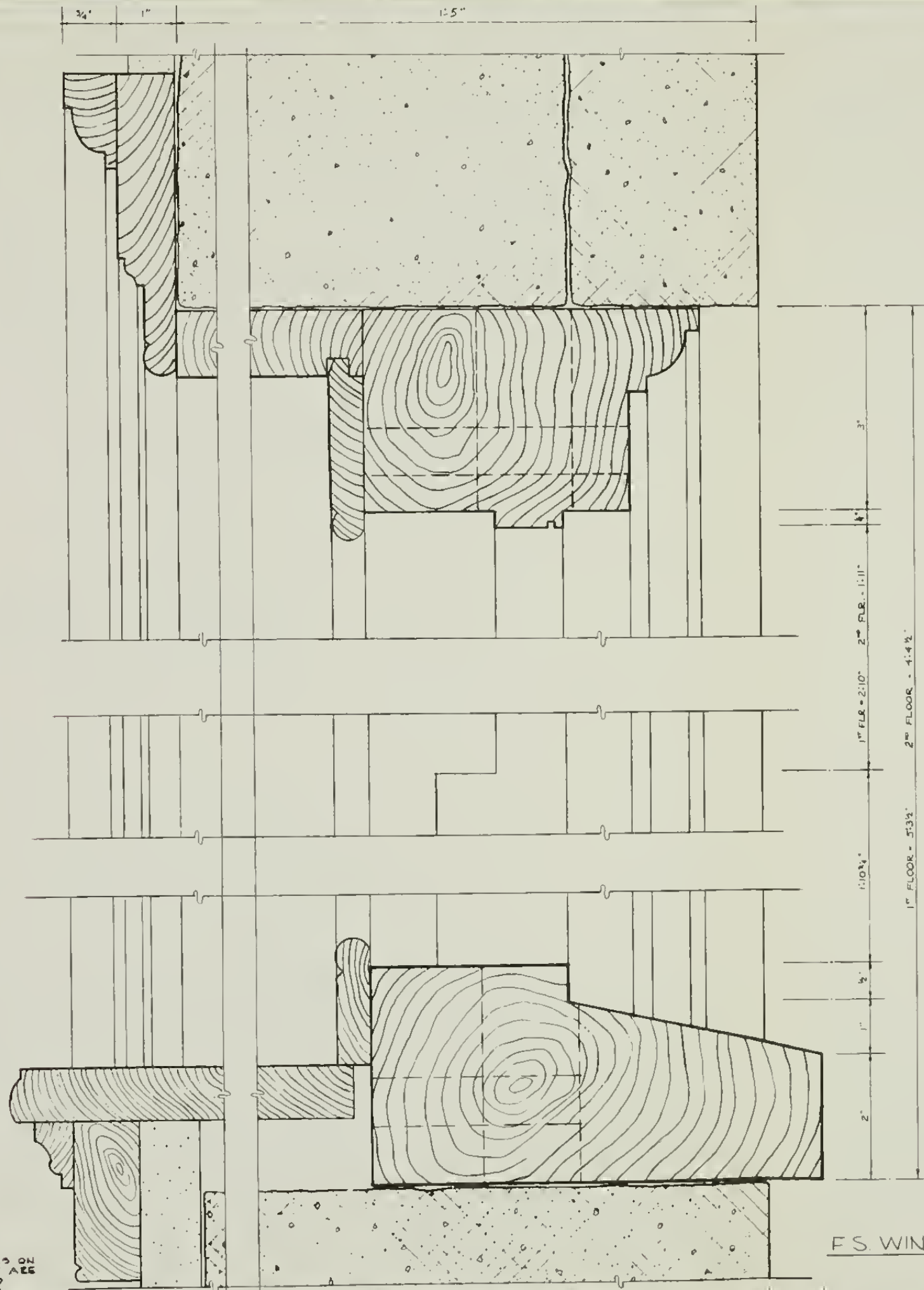
25,000

DATE DEC 1973

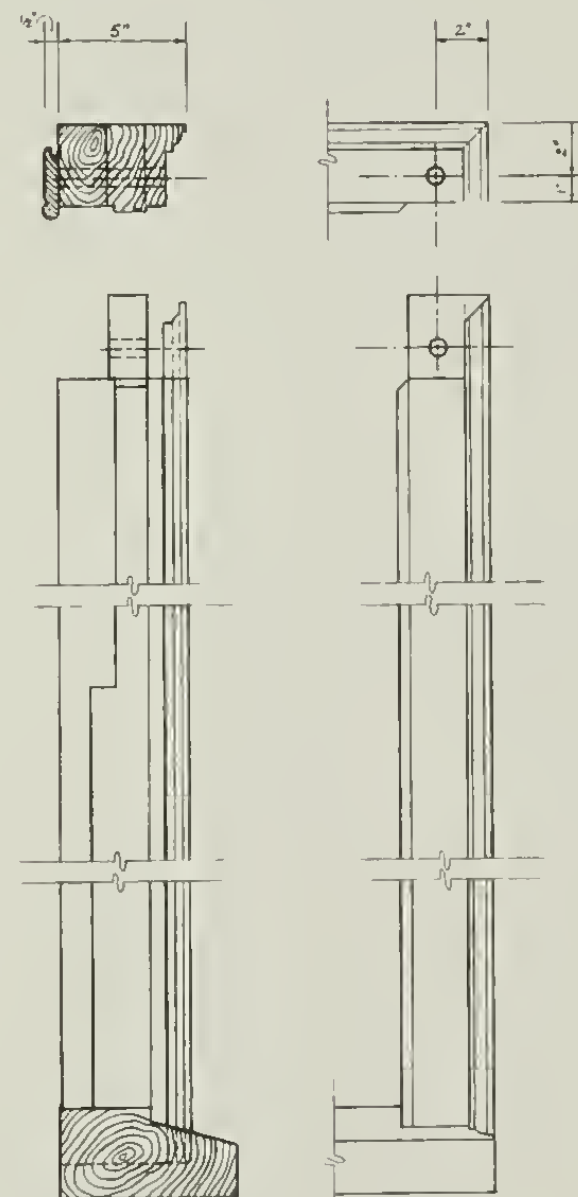
Sheet 5

Window Details and Summer Beam Connection

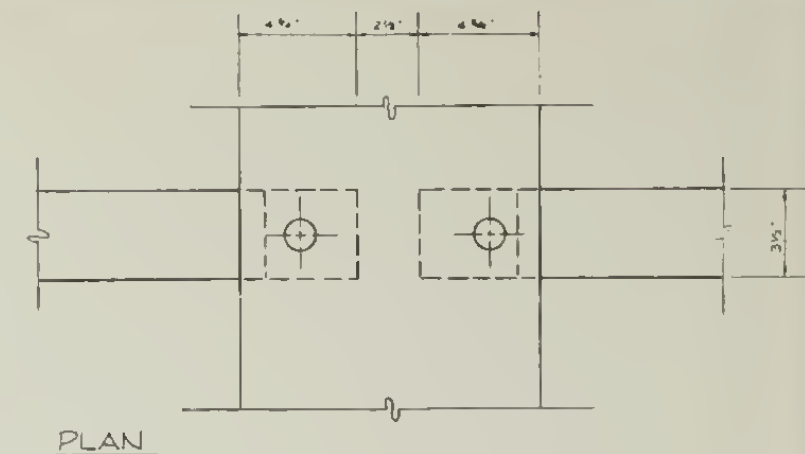




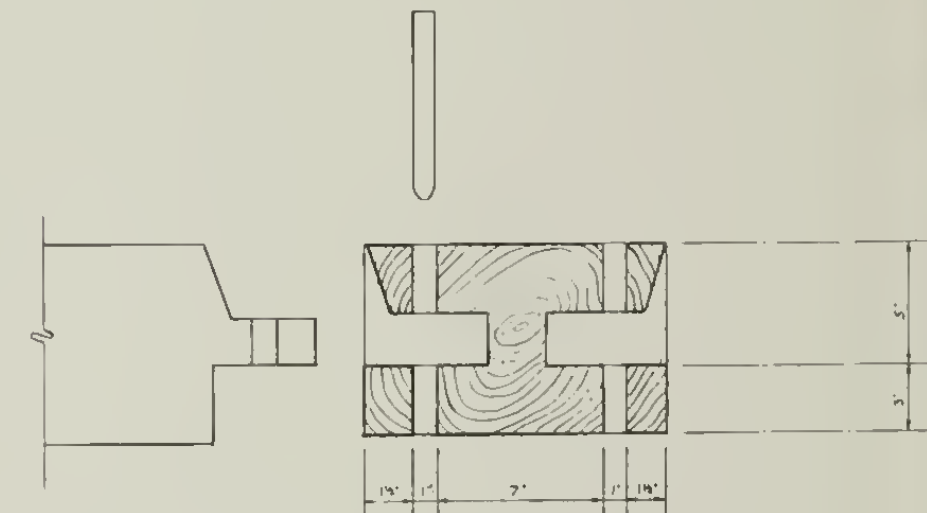
NOTE:  
ALL WINDOW FRAMES & SASH ARE  
BLACK WALNUT



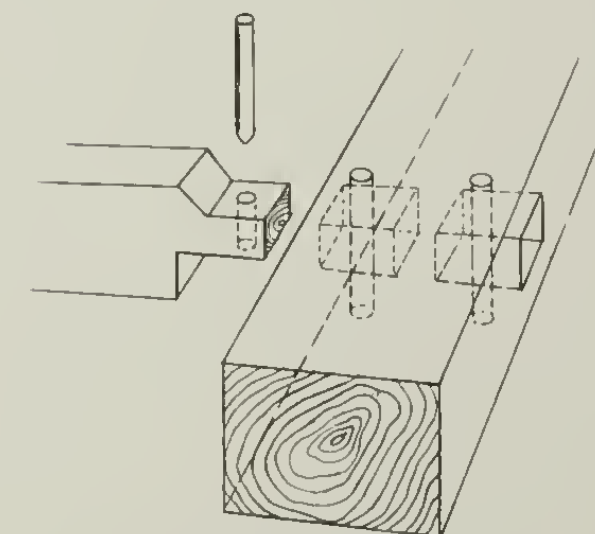
WINDOW SECTION & ELEVATION



PLAN



SECTION



PERSPECTIVE

JOIST - SUMMER BEAM CONNECTION

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT  
PROPOSED RESTORATION

SCALE  
DRAWN AT 3/4\"/>

WINDOW DETAILS AND SUMMER  
BEAM CONNECTION

F.S. WINDOW SECTION (1/5)

ALL DETAILS ON  
THIS SHEET ARE  
FROM FIELD  
DIMENSIONS

BASIC DATA

ORIENTATION

PREPARED  
ADLERSTEIN  
DRAWN  
GERNER  
STEVENS  
CHECKED  
SMITH

REVISED  
DATE INITIAL

REGION  
SOUTHEAST  
PCP NO.

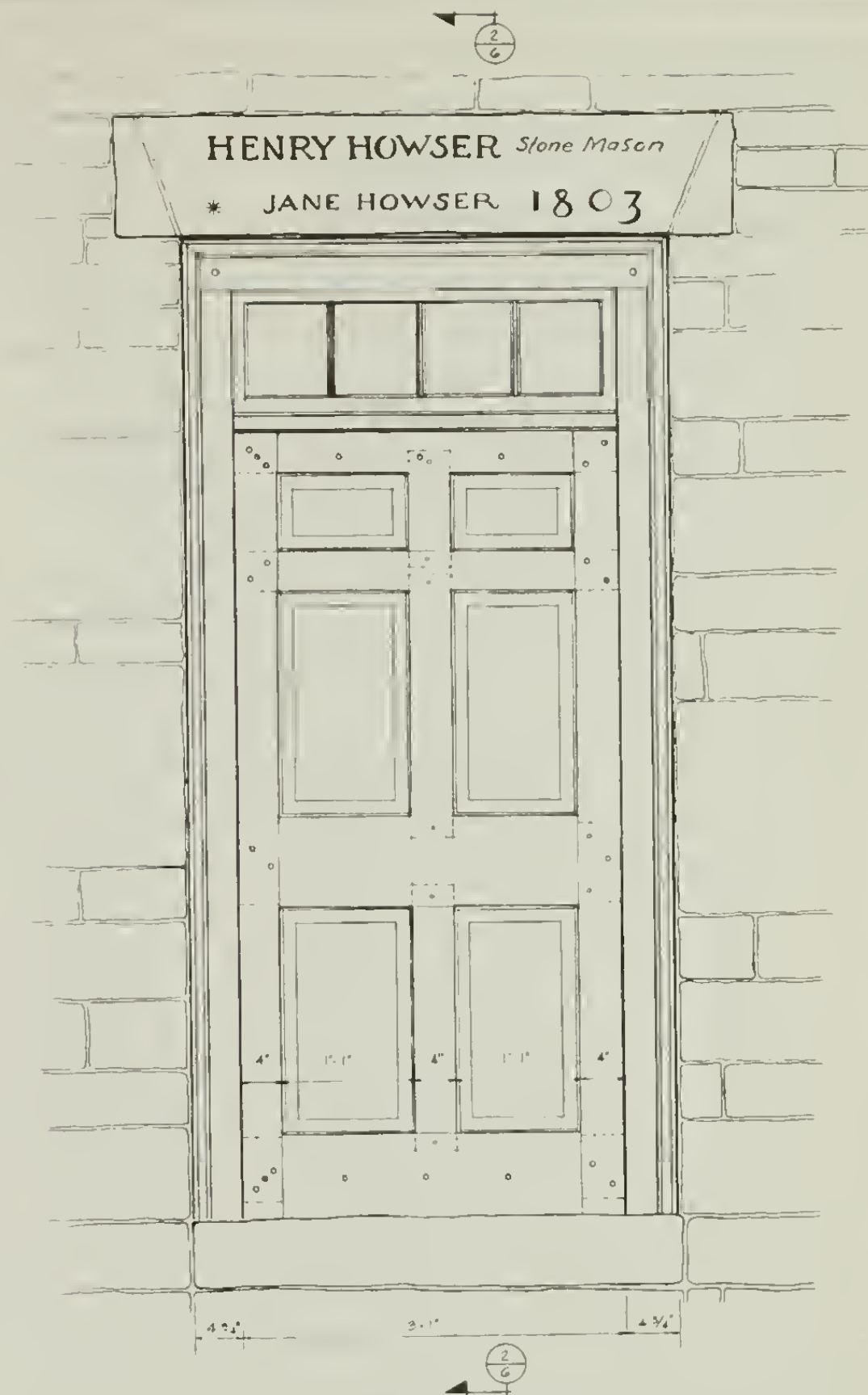
SHEET 5 OF 10  
DRAWING NO.

335  
25,000

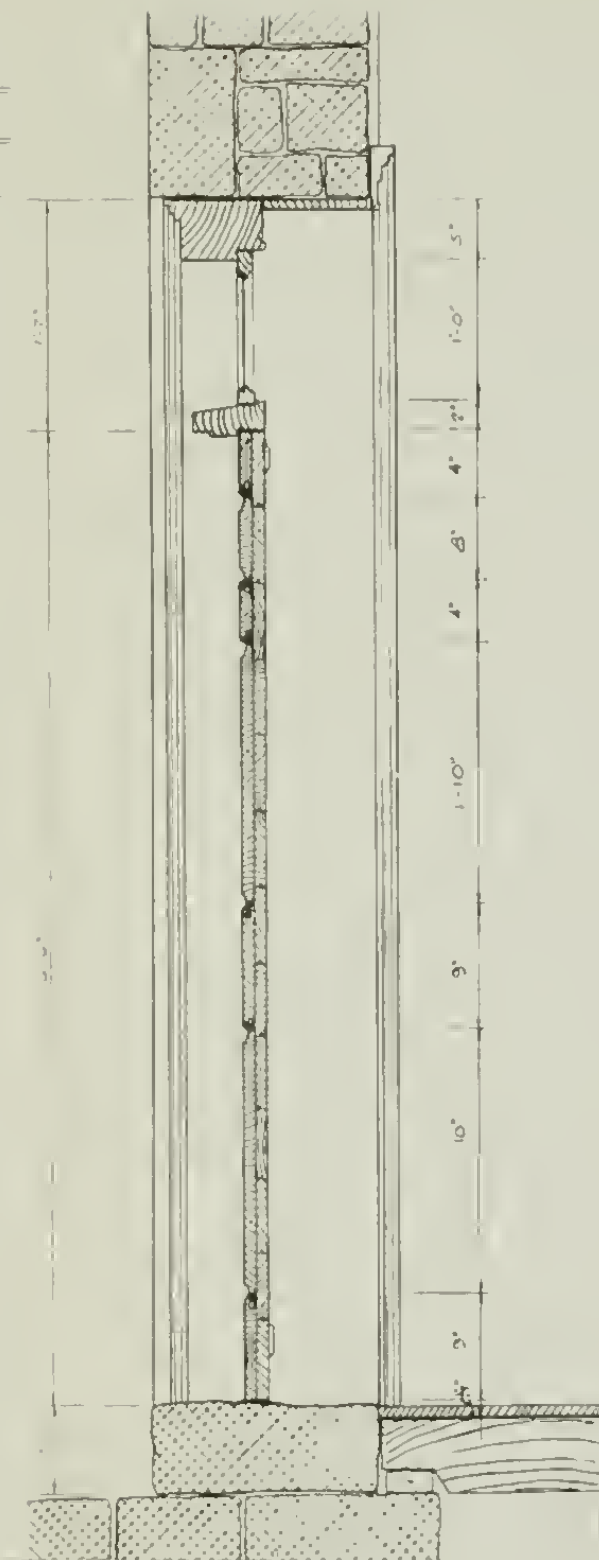
DATED DEC. 1978

Sheet 6

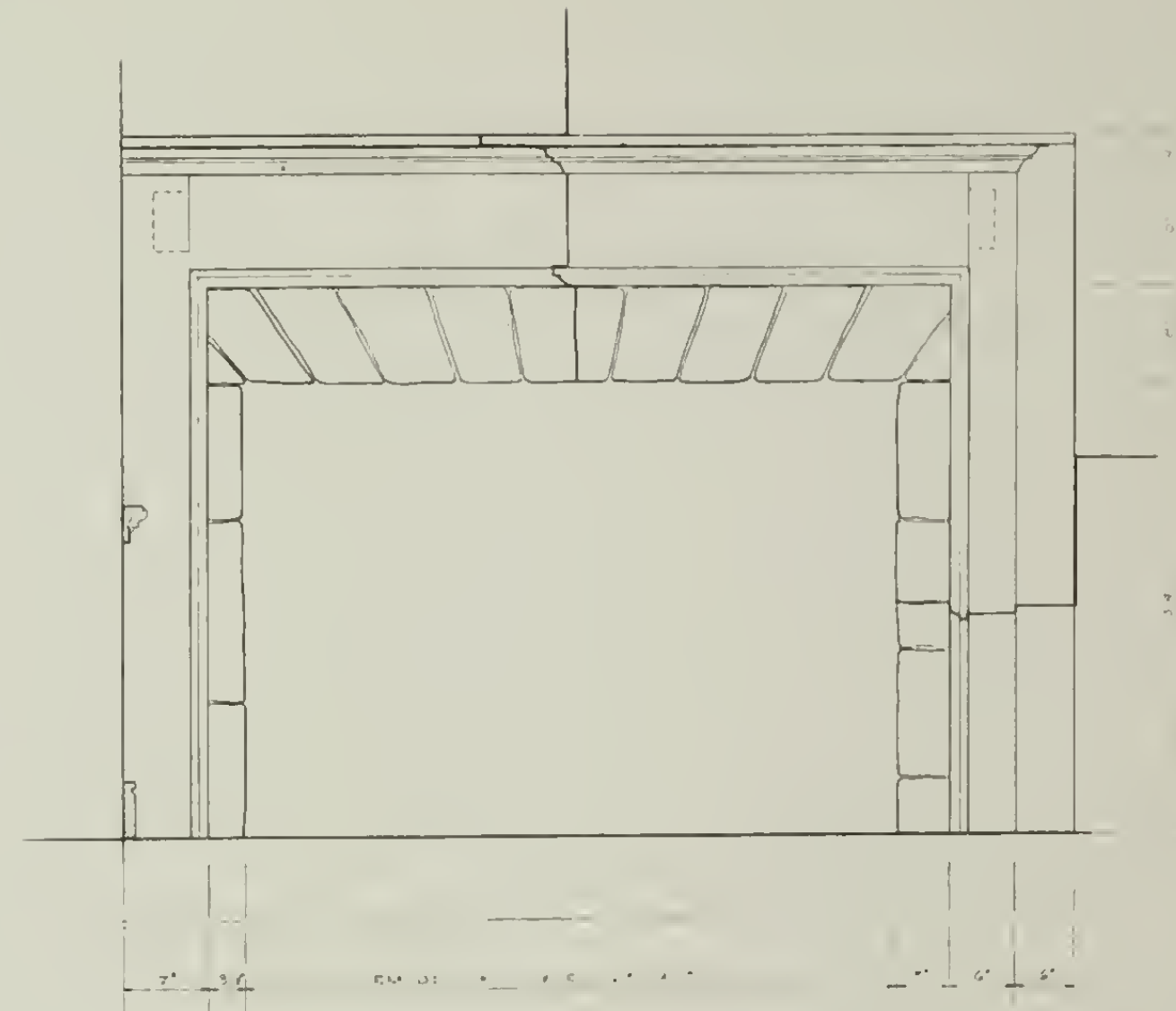
Door and Fireplace Elevations and Section



FRONT DOOR ELEVATION (1/6)



FRONT DOOR SECTION (2/6)



F-2 & F-3 ELEVATION (9/6)

HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT  
PROPOSED RESTORATION

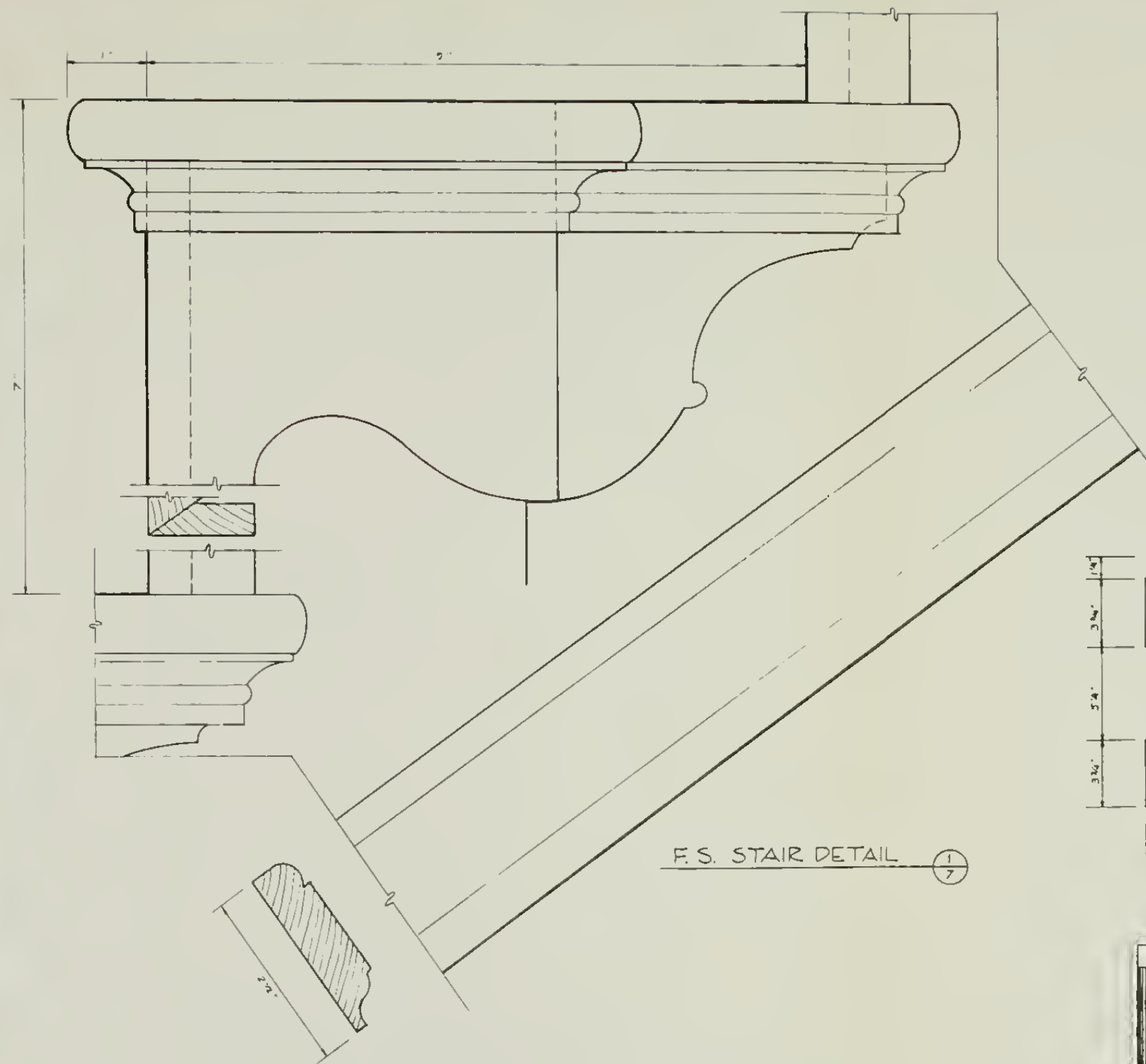
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

DOOR AND FIREPLACE ELEVATIONS  
AND SECTION

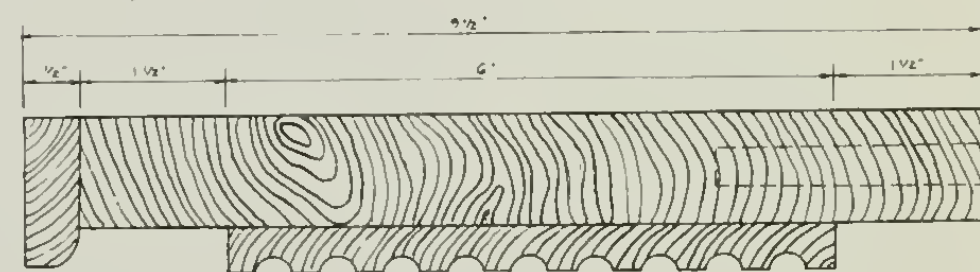
Sheet 7

Stair, Fireplace, and Moulding Detail

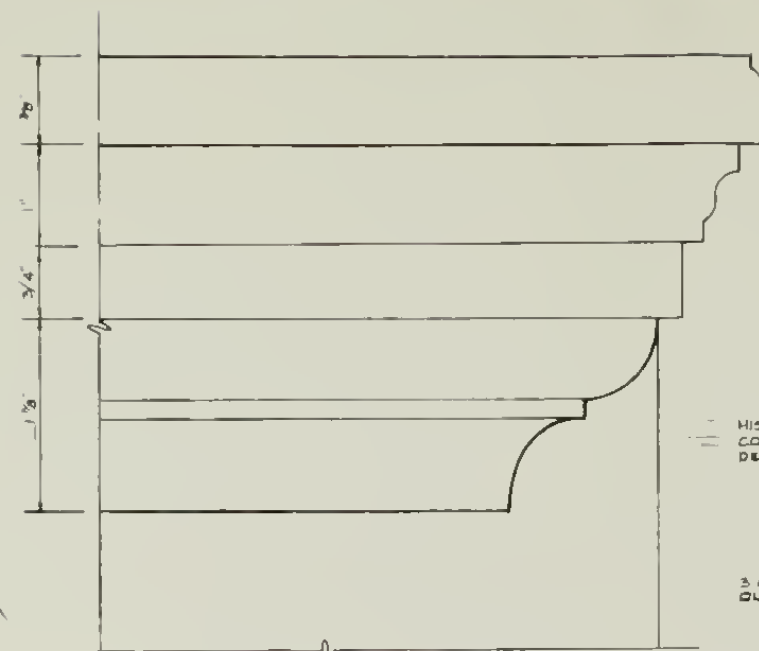




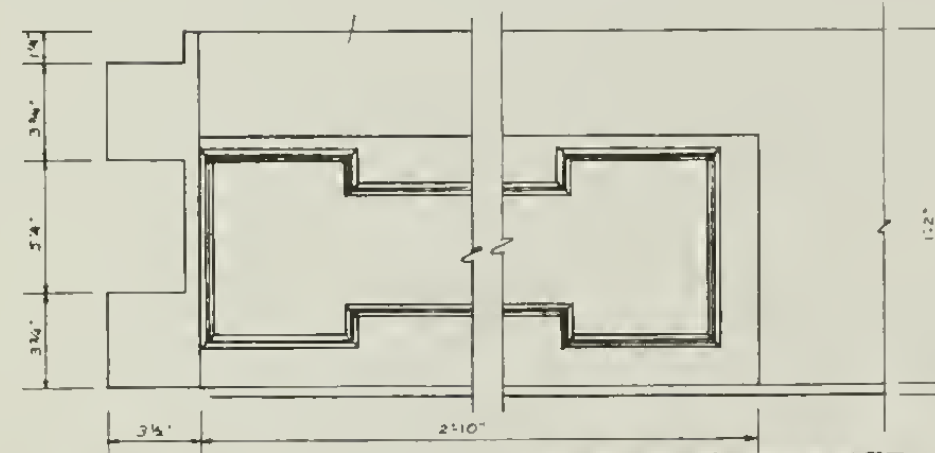
F.S. STAIR DETAIL (1/7)



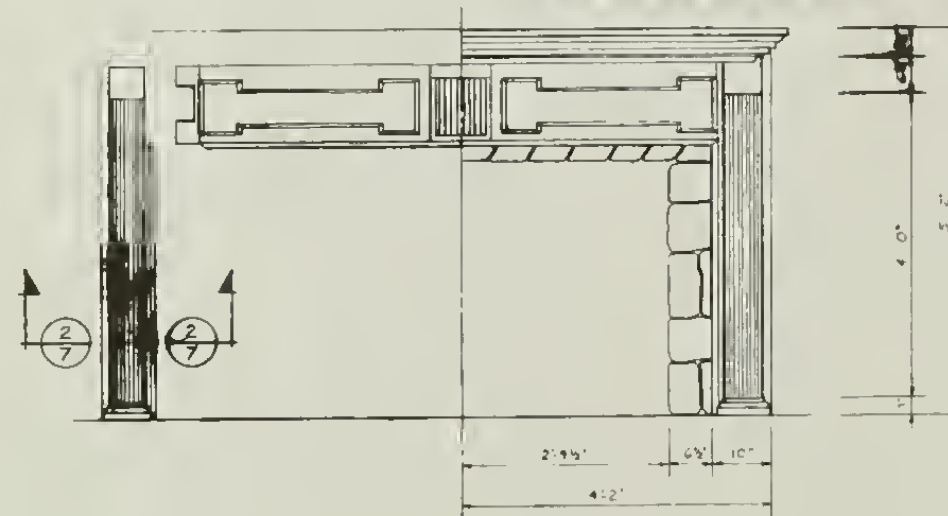
DETAIL (2/7)



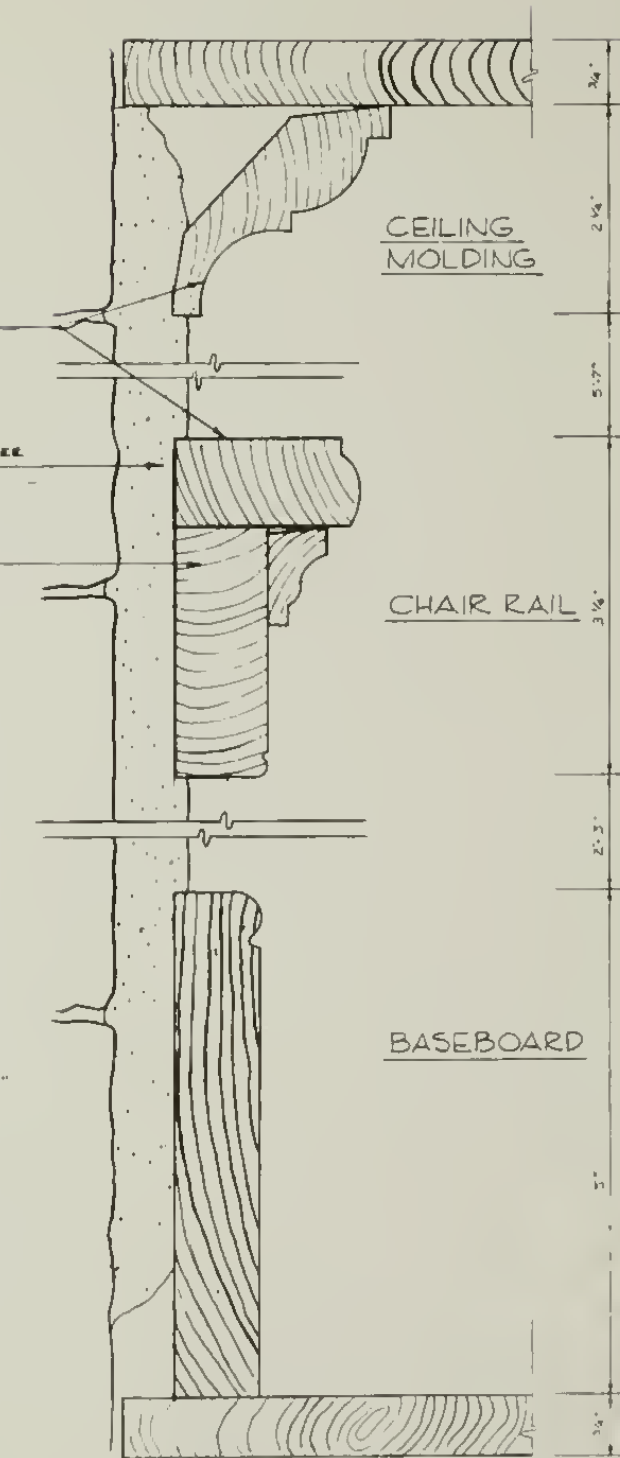
PARTIAL MANTEL ELEVATION



MANTEL DETAIL



FIREPLACE F-1 (3/7)



F.S. TRIM SECTIONS (4/7)

SCALE DRAWN AT 3/4\"/>

STAIR, FIREPLACE AND  
MOLDING DETAIL



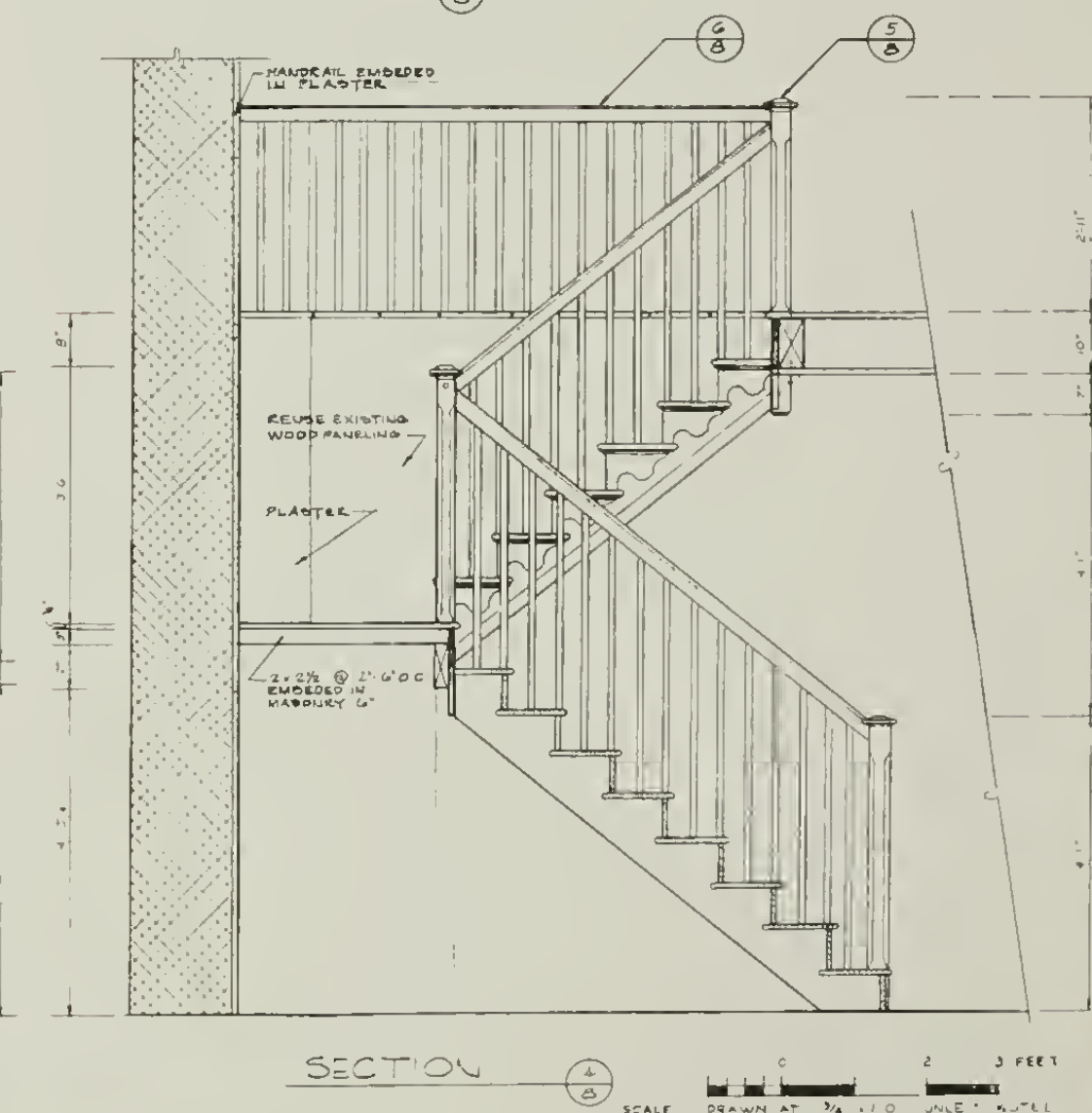
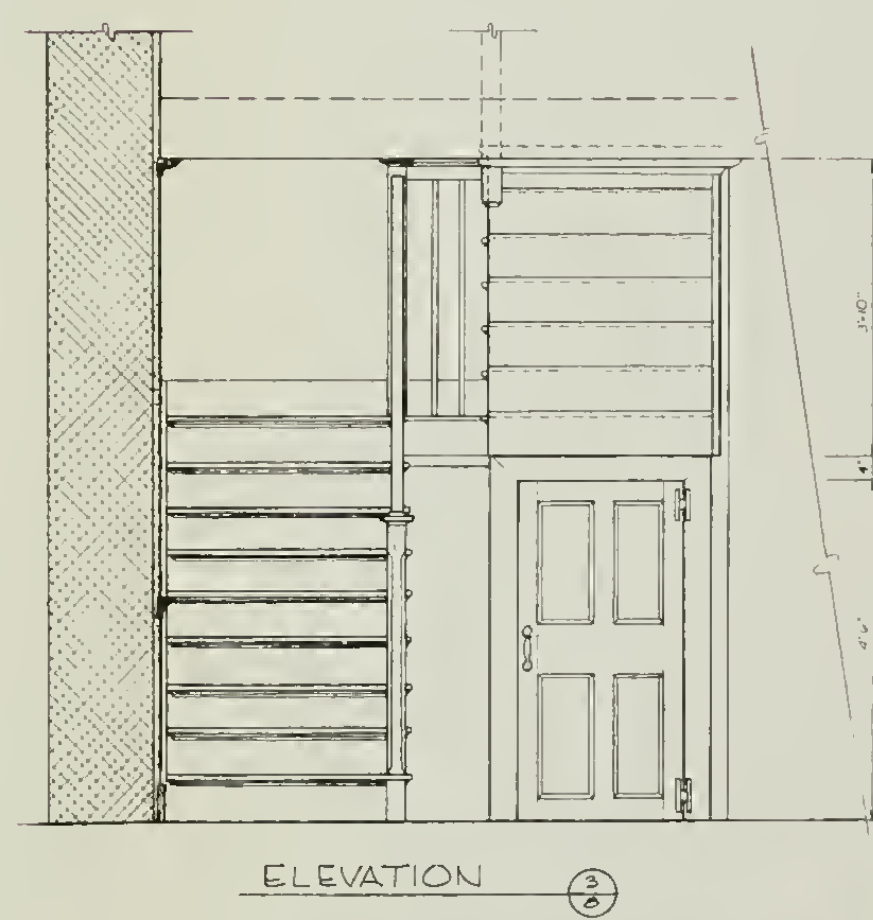
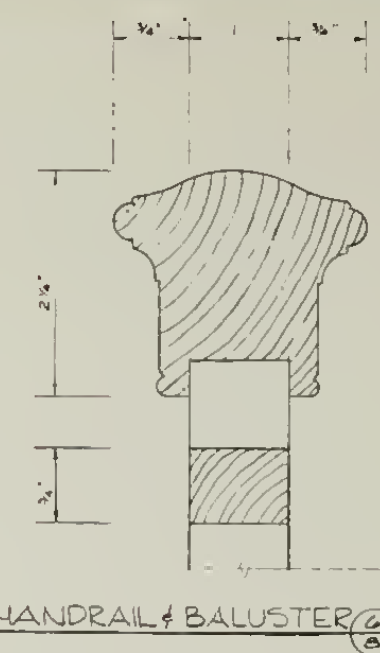
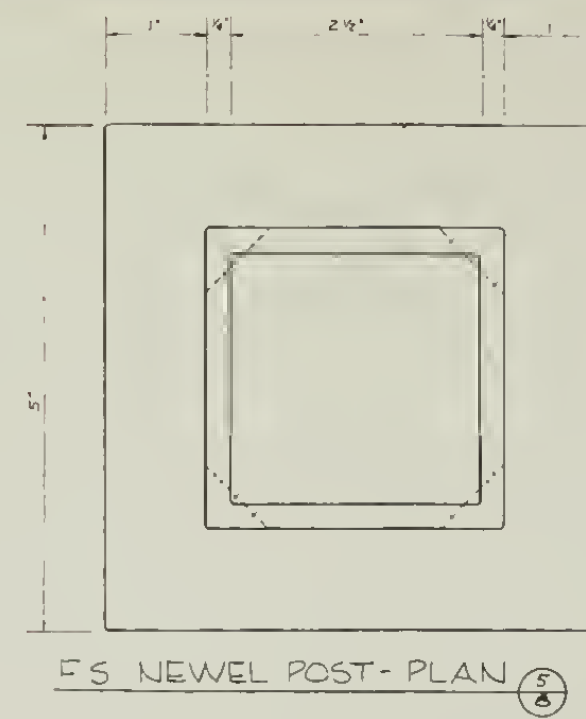
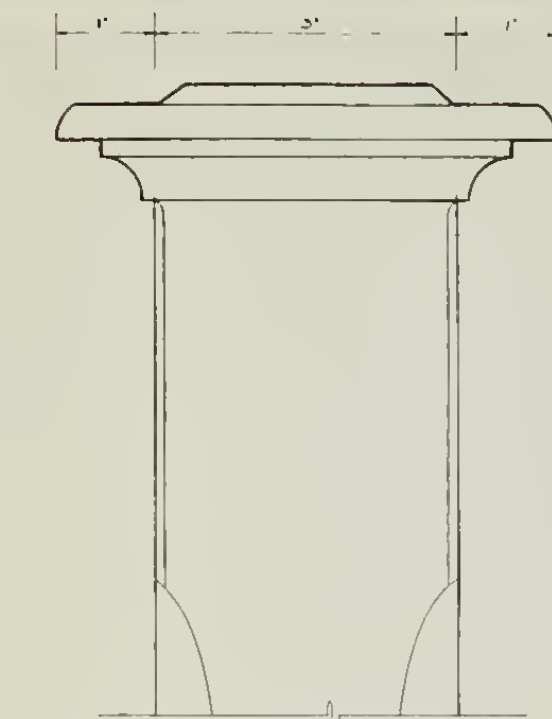
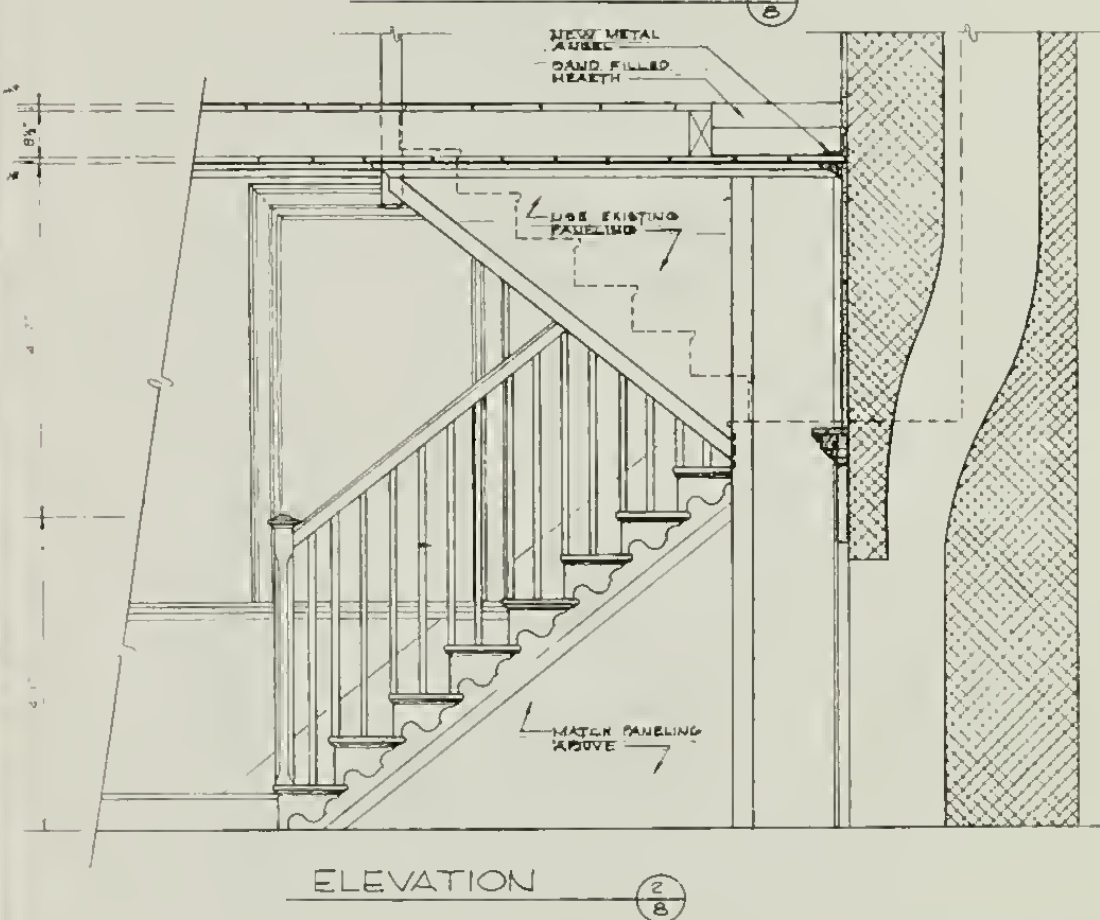
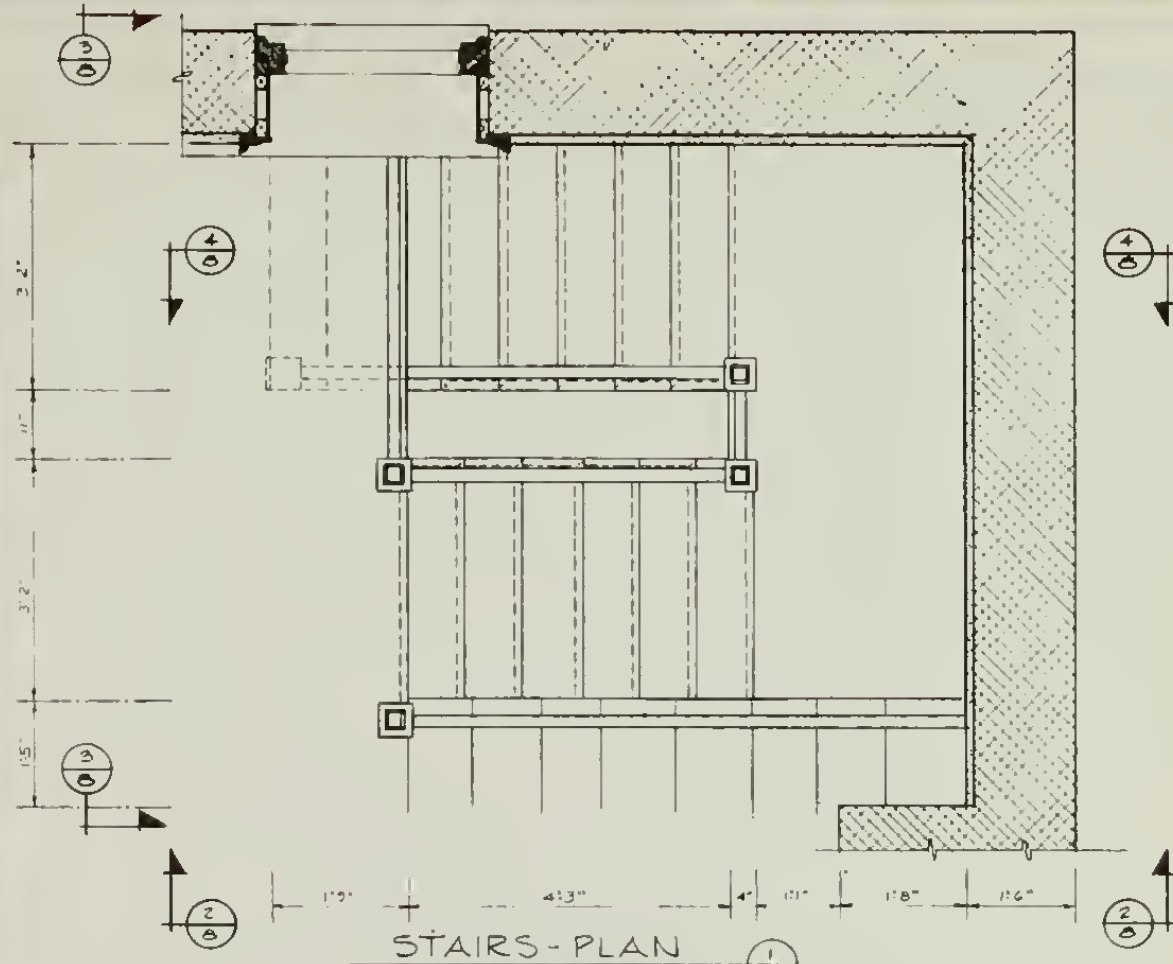
ORIENTATION

PREPARED	
DESIGNED	ADLERSTEIN
DRAWN	SENECA
CHECKED	SMITH
APPROVED	
REVISION	
DATE	
INITIAL	
REGION	SOUTHEAST
PCP NO.	
SHEET 7 OF 10	
DRAWING NO.	335
DATE	26 DEC 1973

Sheet 8

Stairs--Plan and Elevations





PREPARED	
DESIGNED	
ADLERSTEIN	
DRAWN	
STEVENS	
CHECKED	
SUTIM	
ARCH.	
ELEC.	
ARCH.	
STRUCT.	
REVISED	
DATE	INITIAL
REGION	
SOUTHEAST	
PCP NO	
SHEET 60 OF 61	
DRAWING NO	
335	
25,000	
DATE DEC 1970	

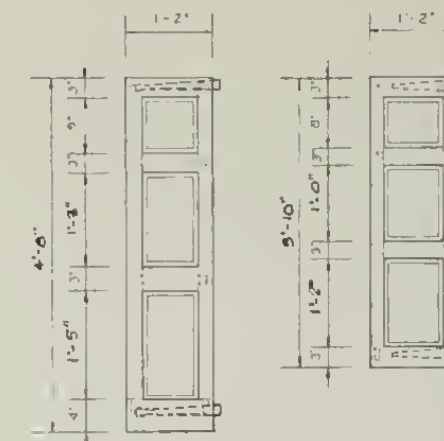
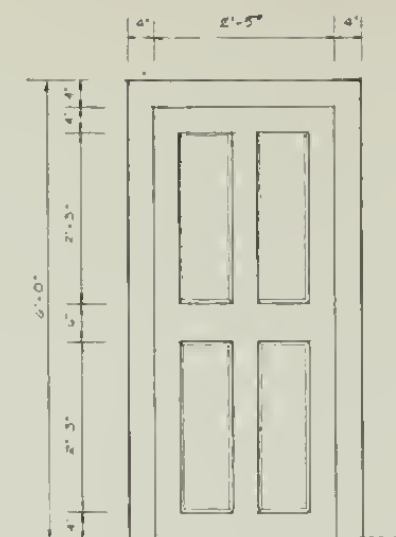
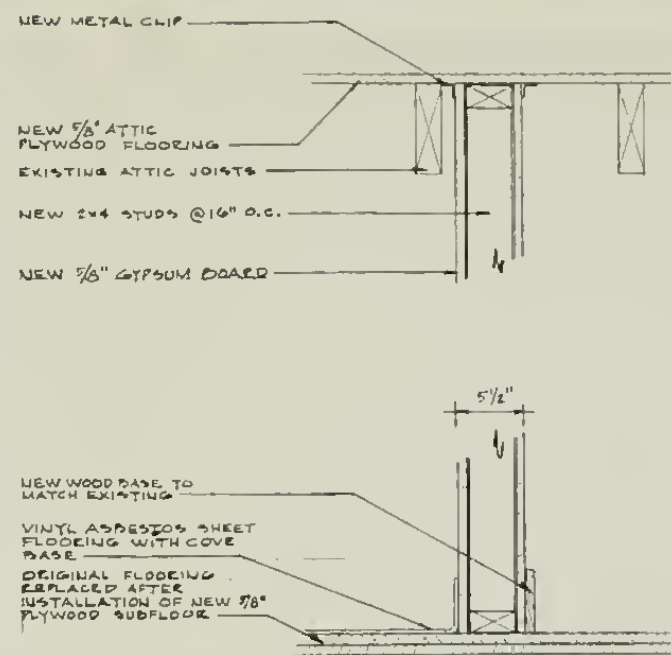
## STAIRS-PLAN AND ELEVATIONS

# HISTORIC STRUCTURE REPORT PROPOSED RESTORATION

Sheet 9

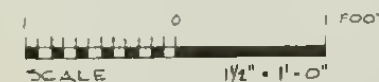
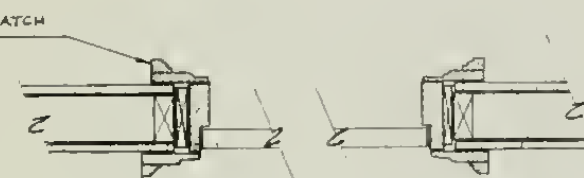
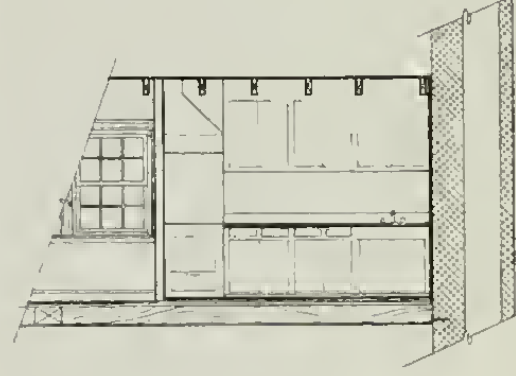
Miscellaneous Details





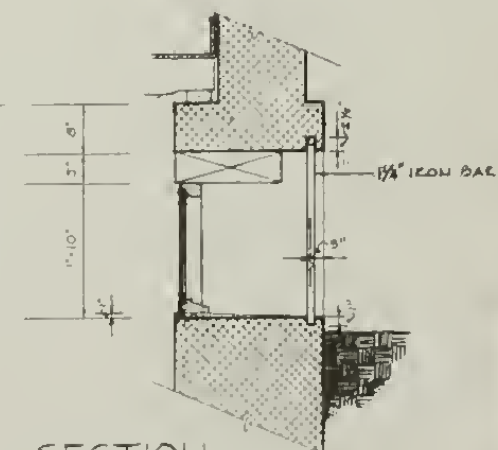
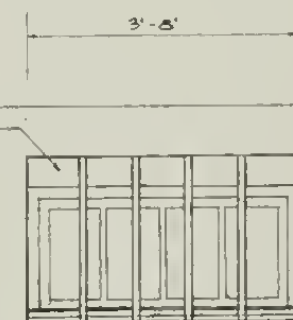
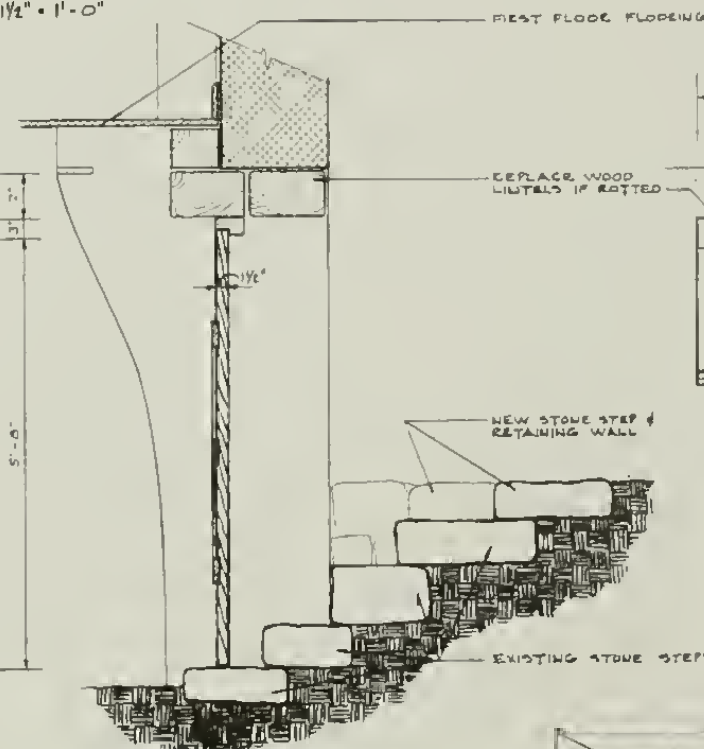
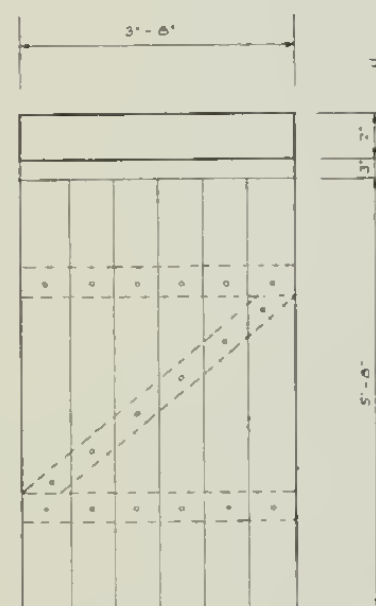
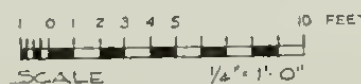
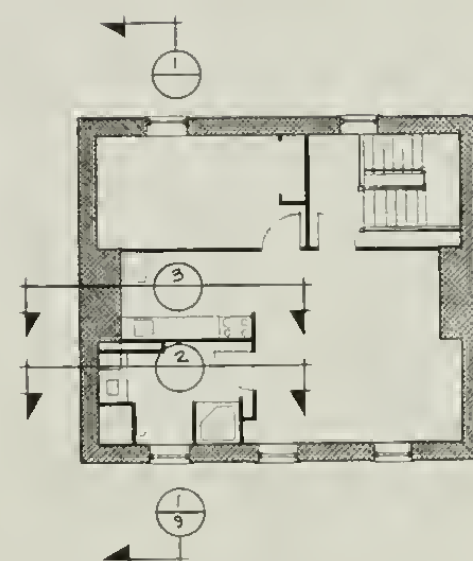
2ND FLOOR

SECTION



NOTES:

1. ALL DIMENSIONS MUST BE VERIFIED IN FIELD
2. HARDWARE TO BE SUPPLIED BY NAT. PARK SERVICE
3. BATHROOM AND KITCHEN FLOORS TO BE OF VINYL ASBESTOS SHEETS
4. WAINSCOT IN BATHROOM OF CERAMIC MOSAIC TILE AT CHAIR RAIL HEIGHT
5. CLOSET DOOR SHALL NOT BE OPERABLE TO ENCLOSE DUCT SPACE



BASEMENT WINDOW

BASEMENT DOOR

MISCELLANEOUS DETAILS

RECOMMENDED	DATE
CONCURRED	DATE
APPROVED	DATE



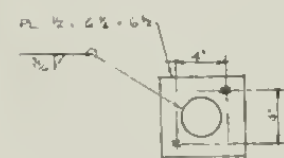
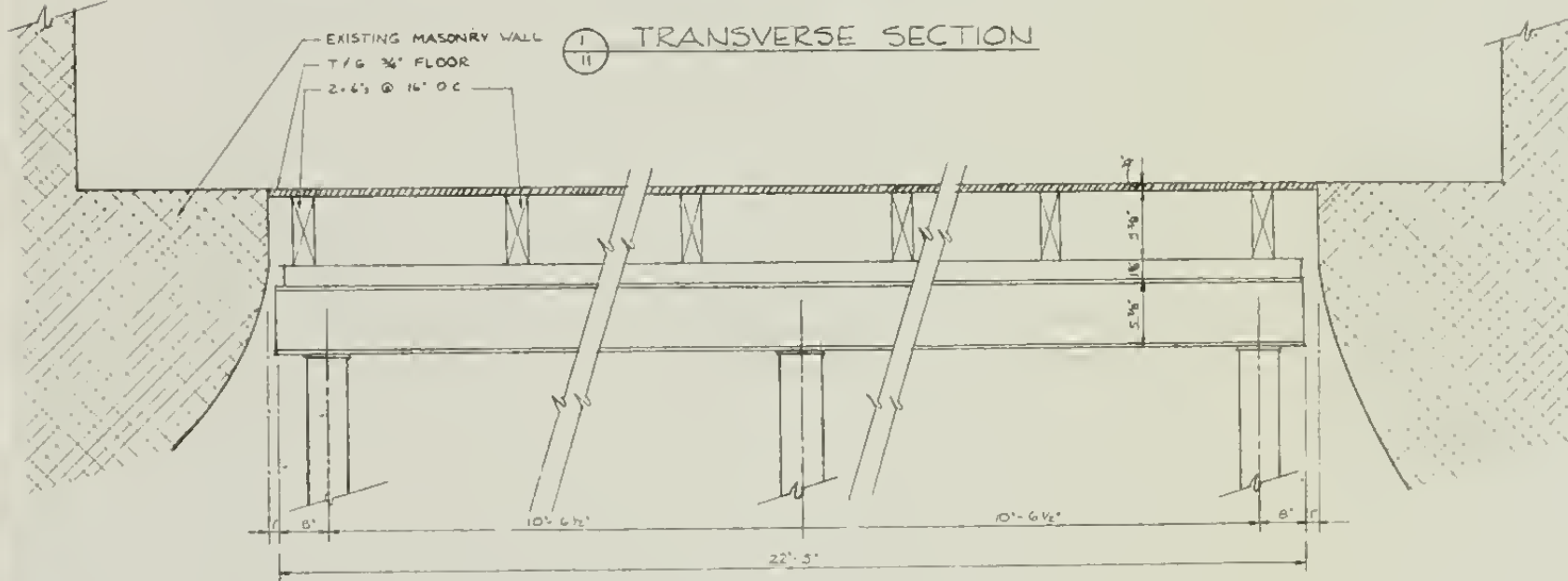
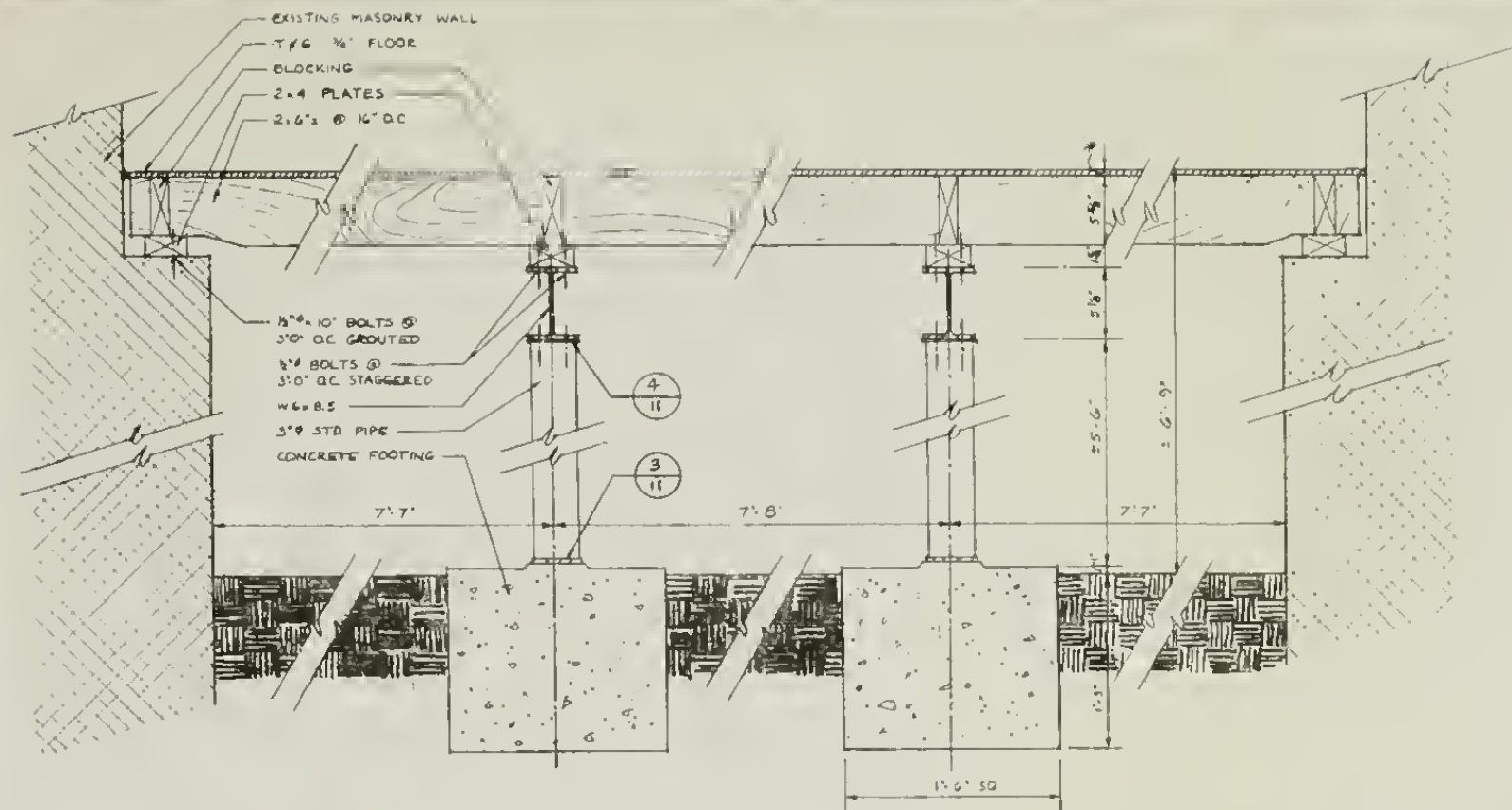
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	
PREPARED BY	DATE
TITLE OF DRAWING	LOCATION WITHIN PARK
NAME OF PARK	



PREPARED	DESIGNED
ADLESTEIN	STEVENS
CHECKED	SMITH
REVISION	DATE
INITIAL	
REGION	SOUTHEAST
PCP NO.	
SHEET 9 OF 10	
DRAWING NO	335
DATE	25,000

Sheet 10

Structural Details



NOTES:  
 1 BUTTRESS EXTERIOR FACE OF MASONRY WALLS WITH HEAVY BEADING TIMBERS BEFORE DEDLING INTO WALL AT SECOND FLOOR AND ATTIC  
 2 NAIL PLYWOOD AT BOUNDARY Ed @ 4\"/>

5 ATTIC SUMMER BEAM

6 SECOND FLOOR JOISTS

7 SECOND FLOOR JOISTS

RECOMMENDED	DATE
CONCURRED	DATE
APPROVED	DATE

SCALE DRAWN AT 3\"/>

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	
REGION SOUTHEAST	SHEET 10 OF 10
PCF NO.	DRAWING NO. 375
	25000
	MAY 22 1975

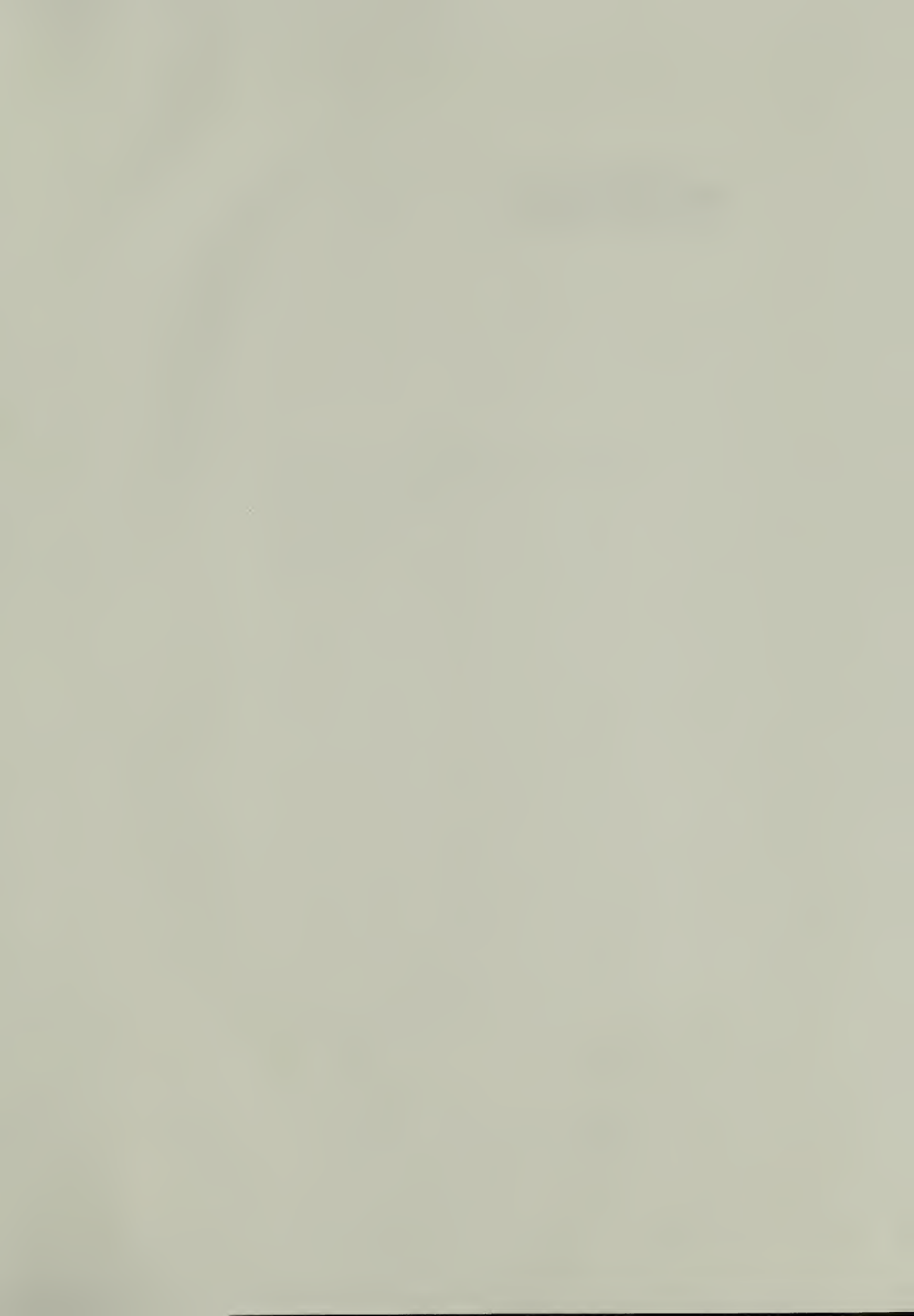
ORIENTATION

PREPARED	DESIGNED
WENDE	DRAWN
ADLERSTEIN	CHECKED
SMITH	ARCH
	ELEC
	MECH
	STRUCT
REVISION	DATE
	INITIAL

# STRUCTURAL DETAILS









DATE DUE

W. Gordon

Due: 5/6/04

